

Hafa Adai!

Teacher, man arrested for allegedly stealing copper wires. » **PAGE 3**

SHEFA rules amended to include trade school students. » **PAGE 5**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIV, Issue No. 234

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2014

www.saipantribune.com

75¢

BSI OK'd to bring outside investor

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The parent company of Best Sunshine International Ltd. has been allowed to bring in an outside investor for its \$7.1-billion integrated casino development project on Saipan.

According to GRRAsia, an online newsletter about the casino industry in Asia, Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd. can now offer other investors up to 49 percent of the issued share capital of the company, based on a company filing with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange last Wednesday.

The CNMI Lottery Commission awarded Best Sunshine an exclusive Saipan casino license last July 15. A little less than a month later, on Aug. 13, the two parties entered into an agreement that

See BSI on **Page 4**

Inos belies 40-year tax break for BSI

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos finally got a chance to address one of the allegations thrown at him during the general and runoff elections, which claimed that



Inos

his administration gave exclusive Saipan casino licensee Best Sunshine International Ltd. a sweetheart deal by exempting the company from paying taxes for 40 years.

"Someone should read the law. The only thing they had a break initially is when they asked for total tax exemption. The negotiators didn't go for that and instead they compromised," he told *Saipan Tribune* Saturday, a day after he and his running mate, Senate

See INOS on **Page 4**



BEACH ROAD MISHAP

Two cars caused a traffic jam along Beach Road in Oleai after a minor accident Wednesday afternoon. The grey sedan hit the back of a white Lancer but there were no reports of major injuries. The accident happened near the Inos-Torres waving and Diabetes Awareness Month Walk.

JAYSON CAMACHO

Research explores Mariana Trench's Sirena Deep

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Schmidt Ocean Institute is conducting a monthlong research in the Mariana Trench at depths close to 11,000 meters. The Exploring the Mariana Trench expedition runs from Nov. 9 to Dec. 9, and aims to shed light on the biological and geological processes of the ocean floor.

According to the institute, landers or "under-

water elevators" will be deployed in the trench's Sirena Deep near Guam to reach these depths, technically called the hadal zone. Landers are mechanical platforms used for carrying instruments, scientific samples, imagery, and measurements, for example, from the surface to the bottom of the ocean.

Jeff Drazen, a deep-sea fish expert from University of Hawaii at Manoa, is the expedition's chief scientist, and Patricia Fryer, a ge-

ologist from UH, is co-chief scientist, according to the institute.

The research aims to answer questions about animals that live in these depths. From samples, scientists will study the biochemical adaptations that these animals have taken to survive the extreme pressures of the trench.

Particularly, according to the institute, they will examine whether these animals have "spe-

See RESEARCH on **Page 4**

INSIDE



NATION

LaSalle Street Church members each get \$500 to do good for the world.

» **PAGE 15**



ASIA

A suicide bomber blew himself up in Afghanistan, killing at least 50 people.

» **PAGE 16**



LIFE & STYLE

The missing letter from Neal Cassidy that inspired Jack Kerouac is found.

» **PAGE 19**

GOT A **NEWS TIP?**

TEL: **235-6397**
235-2440

FAX: **235-3740**

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Military will gather public input on Tinian, Pagan EIS

Manglona ordered that after serving the three months in prison, Richards will be placed on 33 months of supervised release.

aaahhhhhh.....

HAVE A SANDWICH ON US!



Free Subway® Sandwich with Fuel Purchase.*

Get a free 6" Subway® sandwich for every 5 gallons of fuel purchased. Present your coupon at participating Subway® restaurants and choose between a Cold Cut Trio, Tuna or Seafood and Crab sandwich



Teacher, man arrested for allegedly stealing copper wires

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Chacha Oceanview Middle School teacher was arrested over the weekend after he and another man allegedly broke into a store's generator room and stole copper wires worth over \$1,600 in Kagman last month.

George Lieto Jr., 30, was arrested in Chalan Piao on Friday for burglary and theft and was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$10,000 cash bail for Lieto's temporary release and set the preliminary hearing for Dec. 12 at 1:30pm.

Lieto's co-defendant, Terwik Ludwig, 41, was arrested on the same charges in Kagman last Wednesday.

During Thursday's hearing, Camacho imposed a \$10,000

cash bail for Ludwig's temporary release and set the preliminary hearing for tomorrow, Wednesday, at 9am.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that patrol officer David Rabauliman was conducting routine patrol along Cha Cha Road in Kagman last Oct. 26 at 9:47am when he spotted Lieto and Ludwig loading copper wires into a car's trunk next to the generator room of New Kagman Market.

As Rabauliman turned into the New Kagman Market, he saw Lieto enter the driver's side of a Mazda 3 car, while Terwik got into the vehicle's rear passenger side.

As the car was exiting the parking lot, Rabauliman blocked the exit. The officer got out of his patrol car and approached Lieto.

As Rabauliman was talk-

ing with Lieto, Terwik got down and ran into the jungle south of Kagman Laundry located behind New Kagman Market.

The officer found in the car's trunk two large rolls and two small rolls of copper wires that had been taken from the generator room of New Kagman Market. Lieto was then arrested.

According to the storeowner, the stolen wires were back up wires for the generator.

Pangelinan said she interviewed Lieto that same day at the Department of Corrections, during which Lieto disclosed that he and Navan Falig had arrived at Cool Laundry Poker in Kagman when Terwik asked to borrow a hacksaw to cut a vehicle's catalytic converter muffler at a friend's junkyard.

Lieto said he and Falig left the arcade aboard Falig's Mazda 3 car to get the hacksaw from the latter's house. When they returned, Lieto said Terwik led him to the generator room of New Kag-

man Market, where he saw rolled wires that were ready for pick up.

Lieto went inside the poker room and asked Falig for the car keys and he then helped Terwik load the wires into the trunk of the vehicle.

Pangelinan said that during her interview with Falig, the latter stated that he didn't know anything about the generator room and that Terwik merely asked him to borrow a hacksaw.

In a separate interview,

Terwik admitted that he told Lieto and Falig that he needed a hacksaw to cut catalytic converter muffler at a friend's junkyard, Pangelinan said.

Terwik admitted that he led Lieto to the generator room. Terwik said he passed out the wires through the window and that Lieto helped him pull the wires out and roll them.

Lieto then took Falig's car and helped Terwik load the

wires into the trunk.

Pangelinan said she reviewed the footage of a surveillance camera at Cool Poker and learned that Lieto indeed followed Terwik toward the generator room. Lieto went back into the poker, took the car keys from Falig and drove the car toward the generator room.

Pangelinan said they recovered the rolled wires with an estimated total value of \$1,662.57.

NMC president to be evaluated today

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents will evaluate college president Dr. Sharon Hart in a special board meeting today.

According to the college, the sole item on the meeting's agenda will be the president's evaluation. Hart has been with the college since 2011. Her contract was re-

newed for two years in May last year.

During her leadership, the college was accreditation for six-years under WASC Senior College and University Commission in July this year. The college has also begun its second bachelor's program, with a business management program opening this fall semester.



Hart

Hart was given a no-confidence vote by the NMC Faculty Senate in 2012, but the board later invalidated the vote due to a lack of quorum.

Hart has 11 years of experience leading other community col-

leges and has served as president at Middlesex Community College, CT, and North Dakota State College of Science. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois.

The board is expected to enter into an executive session for most of the meeting's duration, according to the college.

Zenkoji holds 22th peace ceremony

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Zenkoji Temple Memorial Service Group held its 22th peace ceremony on Saipan and Tinian last week, honoring World War II fallen.

According to a statement by Pacific Development Inc. director Gordon Marciano, local dignitaries joined Zenkoji members in their memorial services.

Saipan Mayor Marian DLG Tudela, Japan Consul Hitoshi Kikuchi, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio and Willie and Aya Matsumoto of Pacific Eagle Enterprises joined the group for the memorial services.

Marciano said a total of 24 members arrived on Saipan on Nov. 17 and visited the Japanese Memorial in Susupe located north of Mt. Carmel

Cathedral.

"Every two years, a Buddhist memorial service is performed on-site," Marciano said.

On Nov. 18 they had a friendship night party with the people of Tinian. The following day they held the ceremony at their memorial monument at Banzai Cliff.

On Nov. 20 they visited Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, and Saint Lourdes in the morning and visited Mt. Tapochau in the afternoon.

Marciano said that some of the members visited Guam for a day tour on Nov. 21 and the group left for Japan on Nov. 22.

The Zenkoji group was formed in 1973. Its members travel to remote South Pacific islands where their compatriots who died in action remain and at these places they perform a memorial service and recover their remains.

Operation Homefront Support 2014 gets underway

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Operation Homefront Support for this year is gearing up once again for its 7th year of sending care packages to military reservists and active service members this December.

The annual packaging will be on Dec. 6 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, from 8am to 10am.

Operation Homefront Support organizer Nola K. Hix said that Seventh Day Adventist Clinic recently donated new toothbrushes and floss to be placed in the care packages for the troops.

"We thank them for their continuous support every year. Over the years SDA has donated new toothbrushes and floss. The intent is that once the military servicemen and women have devoured all the goodies in the packages, they also remember to brush their teeth and floss," Hix said.

Last year Operation Homefront sent out 280 care packages.

"All interested donors are encouraged to give me a call as no donation is too little or too small...and we look forward to sending out all the packages just in time for the holidays," Hix said.

She said they are starting

their efforts early to ensure that they get as many addresses of servicemen and women as possible.

"Because of the sensitivity of troop movement, oftentimes service members will relocate, and their families in the NMI will not know about it until weeks or even months down the line," she said.

Contact Hix at 989-6552 or email her at nola.hix@gmail.com.

BW CAR RENTAL
NEW LOCATION
in GARAPAN, SUNLEADER BLDG.
Special Rate \$100.00 for 3 days.
FREE Pick up and Drop off Service
287-2727
Mon. - Sun. • 9AM-9PM

NEWLY OPENED
WORLD MASSAGE
Special Promotion
\$15.00 Body Massage 60 minutes
\$25.00 Body & Feet Massage 90 Minutes
Business Hours:
12:00PM - 12:00AM
Monday - Sunday
For more information, please
Call 234-1504 and ask for Wang
Located in Beach Road, Susupe 2nd floor Joeten Commercial Building or across World Resort

Live the Fiesta Way!

Happy Thanksgiving
November 27, 2014

World cafe RESTAURANT

Come over and celebrate "Thanksgiving" Brunch at Fiesta, an endless feast to remember featuring mouth watering dishes such as Turkey with old fashioned stuffing, Giblet Gravy, fresh Pecan Pie or Lemon Creamy Pie topped with a Swedish Pancake. Including bottomless Champagne, Wines, Beer and Juices.

Local Resident \$29.99 / 11am to 2pm

Seafood and Roast Beef Dinner Buffet with bottomless Beer.
Local Resident \$28.00 / 6pm to 9:30pm

Chambre Bar Happy Hour from 5pm to 7pm and Karaoke will be available from 7pm to 10pm.

For reservations please call 233-6414 or 234-7171 ext. 1547 or 1548

FIESTA
Resort & SPA
SAIPAN
A Tan Holdings Company

Man allegedly chased people with knife

A man who was visiting his girlfriend later picked a fight with her and then proceeded to chase everybody on sight with a knife near Ever Clean Laundromat in Gualo Rai early Thursday morning.

One of two responding police officers arrested the suspect, Kardus Louis, 29, for assault with a dangerous weapon, and disturbing the peace. His bail was set at \$5,250 cash. Preliminary hearing

is on Dec. 3 at 9am.

Police detective Therese S. Kintoki stated in her report that two police officers responded to the U-Luck Poker area in Gualo Rai on Thursday at 2:35am in response to a report of a disturbance.

When the officers arrived, they saw a 16-year-old boy and a man standing on the outer northbound lane of Middle Road shouting at another man,

identified as Louis, who was standing across the street. The man told the officers that Louis was chasing them with a knife.

Louis denied having a knife. The officer handcuffed him and put him inside the police vehicle.

Louis told the officer that he just came to visit his girlfriend and that he does not know why they were mad at him.

While the officer was talking with Louis, the latter's

girlfriend, who was crying and screaming, told the officer to arrest the suspect. The girlfriend said Louis took a knife from the kitchen and threatened to stab her and other people.

A witness told police that Louis challenged everyone to a fight and chased him and other people in the area. Louis allegedly threw the knife in the jungle upon seeing the officers. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Woman indicted for allegedly lying to USCIS

Federal agents arrested on Friday a woman who was indicted in federal court for allegedly making a false statement to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Evangelyn E.C. Jones was indicted on one count of visa fraud.

At a bail hearing yesterday, U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy released Jones on a \$5,000 unsecured bond after assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton stated that the prosecution will not push for Jones' detention.

Jones appeared with her court-appointed counsel, Michael N. Evangelista. She pleaded not guilty.

Kennedy set the jury trial for Feb. 2, 2015.

The indictment was filed in court last Thursday but unsealed yesterday.

According to the indictment, on Sept. 16, 2010, Jones stated in a Form I-130 that an individual known as K.Y.O. was her "husband/wife"—a representation she knew was false in that she had divorced K.Y.O. in 2006.

Form I-130 refers to a U.S. citizen's petition for an alien relative.

The indictment also includes a criminal forfeiture notice, which states that upon conviction of the visa fraud offense, Jones shall forfeit to the U.S. government any conveyance, including any vehicle and property, used in the commission of the offense. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

RESEARCH

From Page 1

cial compounds to protect proteins in their cells from folding improperly" under the hadal zone's crushing water pressure.

These studies, according to the institute, could help with treatments for Alzheimer's disease, which involves problems with protein folding in the brain. Researchers are also on the lookout for other compounds yet undiscovered by science.

Research will also measure oxygen consumption rates among sediment dwellers. According to the institute, these

rates will help measure the activity and number of worms and small organisms there. This can be compared to location and sediment date to find patterns in how the animals are distributed.

The research will also equip a lander with a rock grabber to collect samples to study the area's geology, according to the institute.

The expedition is part of the Hadal Ecosystems Studies program. It includes researchers from Whitman College, New Zealand's University of Aberdeen, and the United Kingdom's Natural Environment Research Council and National Oceanography Centre.

BSI

From Page 1

stated that any change of 10 percent or more in the "total equity, control, or shares of the company" would be deemed a "license transfer" and would need "express written authorization" of the casino commission.

Wednesday's filing said that "on Nov. 19, 2014, the parties have entered into a written amendment to the casino license agreement such that the restriction is no longer applicable," adding that the current controlling shareholder of Imperial Pacific is Inventive Star Ltd., said the GRRAsia report.

The latest filing, the website also reported, said that the board of Imperial Pacific would use "its best efforts to procure that Inventive Star does not reduce its shareholding in the issued share capital of the company to less than 51 percent during the term of the casino resort developer license."

Speaking before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting earlier this month, BSI senior vice president for corporate marketing Jacqueline Wu said the company is planning to construct 4,200 hotel rooms and 300 villas on the island.

Aside from the over 4,000 rooms, BSI's current plan involves construction of a 600-seat

theater, a 10,000-square-meter casino floor, 10,000-square-meter retail area, over 20 F&B outlets, and a theme park.

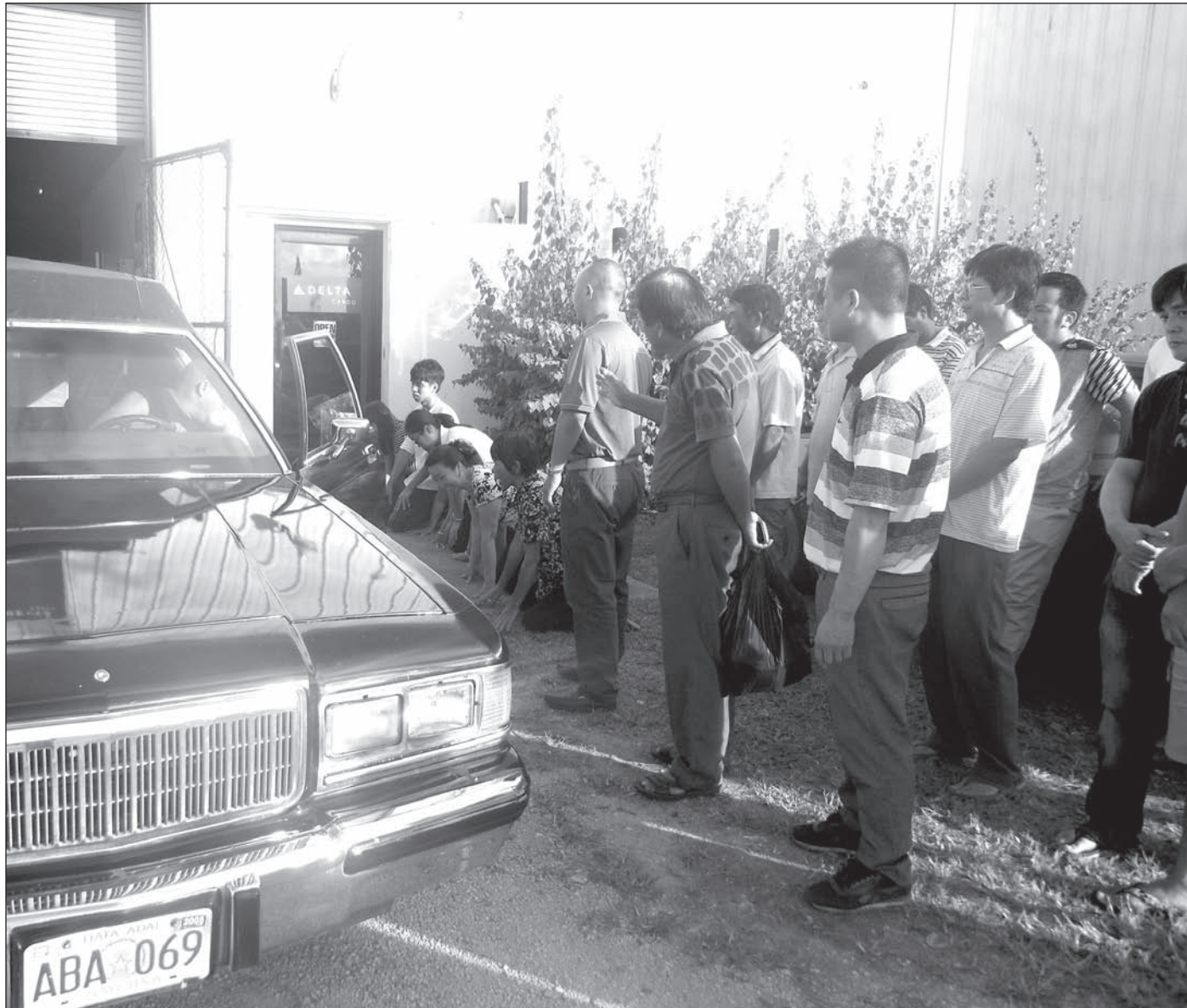
The BSI executive also said that with the increased number of hotel rooms comes the increase in jobs needed for the \$7.1-billion development. She said the company is expected to employ as much as 9,000 people for the project, up from the original estimates of 5,000.

In an interview last week, BSI president and CEO Mark A. Brown said the company is now currently working with Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio to identify public lands for its project.

He said because of the size of the investment, BSI is looking at a mix of public and private land around Saipan.

BSI is also expected to open a new office at the Marianas Business Plaza to augment its current office operations on the third floor of the Bank of Guam building in Garapan.

The company has made its presence felt on Saipan the past month with the release of \$10 million in utility vouchers to residential customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. It also launched an initiative called "Best Sunshine's Beautification Campaign" that is centered on sustaining the islands' premier economic engine: tourism.



LAST RESPECTS

Wives and children, along with relatives of murdered Chinese farmers Hai Ren Li and Cheng You Li, kneel on the ground for prayers before one of two hearses that carried the victims' bodies to the Saipan International Airport for cremation in Guam on Friday afternoon. Friends and members of the Chinese community also came to show their last respects to the victims.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

INOS

From Page 1

President Ralph DLG Torres (R-Saipan) garnered a 1,599-vote lead against independent candidate Heinz S. Hofschneider and his running mate, Ray N. Yumul.

Inos said accusations from the opposing camp of a 40-year tax holiday for BSI are unfounded.

"The only tax break that Best Sunshine gets is on the income tax side and it's only on the first \$15 million in taxes. That \$15 million sounds like a lot of money and it is but that's against hundreds of millions of dollars in income and in revenue."

Besides income tax, BSI would also be paying a slew of local taxes like business gross receipts tax or BGRT, excise tax, alcohol and beverage tax, hotel occupancy tax, and all

the other taxes that would go directly into the government's coffers, he said.

In addition, Inos said, BSI would also need some 9,000 workers to operate its \$7.1-billion integrated casino resort development.

"At one point, they said they needed 5,000 workers but their business model changed and the amount of investments is now \$7.1 billion and they said they now need 9,000. The main thing here is almost everybody on this island who's willing to work and able to work should have a job."

Inos said he is aware that the islands may not have 9,000 workers available for BSI and that's why the subsidiary of Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd. is expected to work with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to address the issue.

"They were made aware of the challenges on the labor

side. They've hired consultants to help them with USCIS on the H1-B1 visas," he said.

Last week, BSI president and CEO Mark A. Brown accused the Hofschneider-Yumul camp of politicizing the company's intentions in the CNMI. Brown was upset over two full-page ads in both newspapers tying them in claims against gubernatorial candidate Inos.

One advertisement accused Inos of distributing the \$10 million utility vouchers—provided by BSI under a contracted Community Development Fund—a day before the election to swing votes. The other ad, asking "Who Benefits?" essentially claimed that BSI would pay no taxes for the next 40 years.

Inos said everything BSI is providing to the CNMI and its residents are mandated by the Aug. 13, 2014, Saipan casino license agreement between

Imperial Pacific and the CNMI Lottery Commission.

Under the Community Benefit Fund, Best Sunshine was obligated within 60 days of the issuance of the exclusive Saipan casino license to provide \$10 million in the form of "Commonwealth Utility Company" vouchers.

Other components of the Community Benefit Fund is that within 60 days of commencing construction work on the first hotel in the casino project, Best Sunshine should contribute \$20 million to "education, scholarships, infrastructure, health care, or employee retirement benefits."

In addition, under the Saipan casino license agreement, Best Sunshine is required "upon the first full year of operation" to annually contribute \$20 million for community benefit programs (education, scholarships, infrastructure, health care, and employee retirement benefits).

SHEFA rules amended to include trade schools students

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The rules and regulations that will allow the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program to offer financial aid to trade school students have been finalized and are now awaiting official approval.

SHEFA board member Juan K. Tenorio recommended on Oct.

16, 2014, a motion to move for the adoption of the rules and regulations for trade school financial assistance. This was seconded by SHEFA board member John Pialur.

SHEFA administrator Merissa S. Rasa was told to insert a section for trade school/vocational school eligibility after the recommendation was approved on Oct. 16, 2014.

Rasa told board members last Thursday that she has already done that.

"I have done what was recommended and we are waiting on it to be signed by [SHEFA board chair] Josephine T. Sablan and after that we will submit it to the Attorney General's Office," Rasa said.

This new policy would specifically cater to vocational and trade institute students so they can apply and be eligible for the program's financial assistance.

The primary beneficiaries of this change are students of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute.

SHEFA rules and regulations previously did not include coverage for trade school students.

Among the recommendations of the SHEFA board for inclusion in the rule and regulations are:

■ Award amount for NMTI to be \$600 per term.

■ Terms to receive financial assistance if eligible are fall and spring semesters.

■ Deadline for supporting documents is Sept. 30 for the fall term and Feb. 28 for the spring term.

■ Pass a letter grade system with a 2.0 cumulative GPA on a grade point system or 70 percent on a number grade system effective next year spring 2015.

■ Award amount will vary each year depending on SHEFA funding availability, field priorities and total number of trade school applicants and workforce demand.

Certified question on land comp law to be filed in next few weeks

Saipan Local Law 18-19 has been in the books since July but landowners whose properties were taken by the government for public use many years ago have yet to see a single cent from the statute that earmarked \$800,000 for land compensation.

Now that the 2014 general election is over, expect the Office of the Attorney General to finally file a certified question with the NMI Supreme Court in the next couple of weeks, according to press secretary and representative-elect Angel Demapan.

"The attorney general will consult with the governor along with the secretary of Public

Lands as to whom from the Legislature will join in filing the certified question. If a member of the Legislature agrees, then the Office of the Attorney General will work with the legislator to file the petition. Although our office cannot give an exact date when the certified question will be filed, we believe in a quick resolution of the matter and will work to have the certified question filed within the next few weeks," said Demapan in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

At least three members of the House of Representatives have



Demapan

volunteered to sign off on the certified question for SLL 18-19: House Speaker Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Reps. Tony Benavente (Ind-Saipan) and Chris Leon Guerrero

(Ind-Saipan).

Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) earlier agreed to sign off on the certified question, but backed off at the last minute while requesting that Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio provide a detailed accounting of the Managaha Island landing fees. The

lawmaker also asked Tenorio to resign.

Under SLL 18-19, \$800,000 in Managaha landing fees should be paid for Saipan land compensation within 60 days of the local bill becoming law. The same law appropriates \$100,000 each to the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. and the

NMI Museum of History and Culture, but within 90 days of the measure becoming law.

A total of 223 Saipan landowners stand to get anywhere between 89 cents and over \$190,000 from SLL 18-9 based on DPL's calculation sent to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation. (Mark Rabago)

Families get help for childcare

»Total funding spent for this year on childcare services is \$1.1M

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act reauthorized last week for another six years, the lead agency that administers the CNMI's share of this funding can continue assisting low income families access quality child care that will allow parents to continue working or participate in education or job training.

The signing and reauthorization of the block grant creates many improvements intended for strengthening health and safety protections, so that mothers and fathers can feel sure their children are safe and well cared for, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) over the weekend.

The CCDBG provides \$2 million each year for childcare to the CNMI and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Child Care and Development Fund administers the program locally.

According to DCCA-CCDF's latest data, a total of 283 families and 503 children were assisted as of Sept. 14 this year. About \$1.1 million was spent for this service this fiscal year.

"The program addresses the need of low-income families to pay for childcare so that parents or other adults in a household are free to work or to obtain training for job skills. Childcare frees par-

ents because without finding someone else to watch their children, parents would have to stay home themselves to do that or leave their children unattended," Sablan said.

Sablan also said that revisions in the law now allow children who qualify for a subsidy to receive care for at least a year despite changes in family income levels that may occur on a monthly basis as a result of a parent's irregular work schedule, including changes in overtime or shift differentials.

"This revision in the law provides more stability for families," he said.

A family is eligible for this assistance if parents work at least 30 hours a week or are scheduled to start to work in two weeks; in job training at least 20 hours a week; attending education on a full time basis; has a monthly gross income that does not exceed the Federal Poverty Income Guideline for a family of the same size; and the family must be living in the CNMI.

Requirements for children include: residing with the parent who is in an approved activity such as working, attending school, or job training; be under 13 years of age and be a U.S. citizen or qualified.

With the \$2 million every year, CCDF can continue providing specialized training for childcare providers, support to childcare providers, and programs for school-aged children.



Sablan

moto X

Pure Style. Pure Performance.



\$99*

Look no hands

Moto X responds to your voice, no touching necessary. And you can ask it just about anything. You just have to say, "OK Google Now" and give it a command. Set an alarm, get directions, find out the weather.


HSPA+


Android 4.2


4.7" Display


Wi-Fi
Capable


Bluetooth


10 MP Main
2 MP Front

ENJOY THE BEST 4G EXPERIENCE!

*Some conditions apply. Must sign or extend postpaid agreement 2 years agreement on \$80 4G Rate Plan. While supplies last.

CALL

Saipan **682-4ITE (4483)**

Tinian **433-0210**

Rota **532-3599**

 IT&E CNMI www.it&e.net

VISIT

Chalan LauLau

Wireless Express Center - TSL Building



Graduates in the workforce talk college with MHS students

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

At the first day of the Northern Marianas College's Start Smart Seminar, members of the workforce took time out their busy schedules to meet face-to-face with seniors from Marianas High School on the difficulties, challenges, and opportunities of a college education.

The seminar will run for three days, with different schools featured each day.

Yesterday's special guests included representative-elect Edwin Propst, Eulalia Villagomez from the Northern Marianas

Humanities Council, Rosemond Santos from KKMP Radio, and other representatives from the Commonwealth Health Center, T Galleria, and other private and public establishments on island.

The guests rotated among the seminar tables to hear any questions the students had. Jesse Palacios, corporate director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., talked about the financial difficulties of attending college.

"Growing up we didn't have money to pay for college. Going to NMC meant that tuition was cheaper," he said. From NMC, he would later attend Washington State University, and Arizona State University to complete his bachelor's degree.

He told students that the first two years of college don't matter as much as the last two. The first two years, he said, is "feeling your way around."

He reminded students about the willpower needed to get through the distractions of college.

"You are all by yourself. Your parents are not there to wake you up in the morning, or to tell you to do your homework. You have to be really responsible. You have a lot of freedom," he said.

Why did he major in marketing? He said he did so to come back to Saipan to promote the island's "bread and butter," tourism.

Eulalia Villagomez, program officer of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, spoke of her "one big challenge" in college, which was homesickness. She said she came from a big family, was never an outstanding student, but told students not to let what they are going through now determine their future.

"I really do believe in mind over matter. So I told them to take it day by day...eventually four years will pass and you'll graduate. What you're experiencing now doesn't determine how your future will turn out," she said.

Jonathan Liwag, who attended college in California, and now is NMC's director of information technology, urged students to "explore all their options."

"Once they find what they really like, they should focus on com-

pleting their degree or whatever they set out to accomplish. That's the thing that will really help us in the CNMI," he said.

Why NMC?

Jeremi Montenegro and several other students said NMC would be even more of a viable and attractive option if it offers the courses they want.

Montenegro wants to be an engineer. He said he might take two years at NMC before transferring to the University of Guam; either that, he said, or he would go the route of the military.

"If they had more [courses], I'm pretty sure more people would go there," he said.

Sean Palma, another MHS senior, is "not really sure" what he'll do after college. But after the seminar he hopes to go to a community college first to explore his options and save money.

"When I do transfer out to a university, I can have pocket money," he said. He added that more courses at NMC would mean "more opportunities to learn other things."

Before the seminar, Havika Mae Farro wasn't sure where she was going. Now she gives NMC a "maybe." Community college saves a lot of money, she said.

Maria Dizon wants to go to American University to study forensic science. She loves lab work, and would like to see "more support for science" at the college.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public, all business vendors and accounts that as of November 14, 2014, Francisco "Kitz" Barja is no longer an employee of Pacific Saipan, Inc./ One Pacific Distributors.

Please direct all business matters to Ms. Jocelyn Leomo, Interim Manager at 233-3999.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public, all business vendors and accounts that as of November 14, 2014, Michael Busby is no longer an employee/ General Manager of Pacific Saipan, Inc./ One Pacific Distributors.

Please direct all business matters to Ms. Jocelyn Leomo, Interim Manager at 233-3999.

GPPC, INC.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(10) Civil Engineering Technicians: \$6.50 - \$8.50/hour OR \$1,300.00 - \$2,700.00/month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing, as well as, overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities, under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

(05) Mechanical Engineering Technicians: \$6.50 - \$8.50/hour OR \$1,300.00 - \$1,800.00/month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing, as well as, overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities, under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

(05) Electrical Engineering Technician: \$6.50 - \$8.50/hour OR \$1,300.00 - \$1,800.00/month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as an Electrical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Electrical Engineering in planning, designing, as well as, overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities, under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

(10) Auto Body Repairer: \$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 2 years' experience as an Auto Body Repairer. Knowledgeable on how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames.

(10) Truck Driver: \$6.10 - \$8.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2-5 years' experience as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation.

(08) Plumber: \$6.10 - \$7.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experienced as a plumber with knowledge on how to assemble, install, alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, as well as, various types of liquids and gases. Able to install or assemble heating and cooling equipment, mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters.

(07) Painter: \$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years' experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as, automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes, and etc.

(25) Carpenter: \$6.10 - \$8.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years' experience as a Carpenter. Knowledgeable on how to construct, erect, install, and repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as, concrete forms, building frameworks, partitions, joists, studding, rafters, wooden stairways, window, door frames, and hardwood floors.

(10) Automobile Electrician: \$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. Must be knowledgeable on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding. Able to perform his/her duties with minimal supervision.

(10) Electrician: \$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as an Electrician. Knowledgeable on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring of various equipment and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Ensures that work is in accordance with relevant codes.

(15) Heavy Equipment Mechanic: \$6.10 - \$8.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years' experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Knowledgeable on how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulics, and pneumatic equipment, such as, cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

(40) Heavy Equipment Operator: \$6.10 - \$8.75.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. Knowledgeable on how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as, motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grate earth, erect structures, pour concretes, and etc.

(40) MASON: \$6.10 - \$8.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years' experience as a Mason. With knowledge on how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs by using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters, patch voids, and use saws to cut expansion joints.

(10) Plumber: \$6.10 - \$7.25/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years' experience as a Plumber. Knowledgeable on how to assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems, including sprinkler fitters.

(20) WELDER: \$6.10 - \$8.25/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Welder. Knowledgeable on how to do hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

All positions must be able to work flexible work hours.
Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan.
A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application.
Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required.
Closing Date: December 2, 2014
GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

OVR counselors conduct outreach in Susupe

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation counselors will be conducting outreach at the House of Manhoben located behind the cemetery next to Susupe Chapel on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014, from 9am to 11:30am. Individuals interested in applying for vocational rehabilitation services are encouraged to take advantage of this outreach.

An applicant is eligible for vocational rehabilitation services if the individual: 1) is an individual with a disability, and; 2) has a physical or mental impairment which for such individual constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment; and can benefit in terms of an employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services, and; 3) requires vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, secure, or retain employment; and 4) has legal status to allow employment in the CNMI or U.S.

OVR extends its appreciation to Ayuda Network for coordinating and making the outreach possible.

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority provides transportation service for a fee of \$5 per ride for the general public (riders without disabilities), or \$3 per ride for approved riders with disabilities and the elderly age 55 and over. Schedule your ride at least one day in advance by calling COTA at 664-2690. You can call this reservation line from Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm, and Saturdays 8am to 4pm.

For more information, contact the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at (670) 322-6537/8; TTY: (670) 322-6449; fax: (670) 322-6536; email: nmidir@ovrgov.net; or P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950. (OVR)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 26, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, Villagomez Building, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Adoption of Minutes of 10/30/14

II. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS'

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Action on Fiscal Year 2015 Budget, 1st Quarter Allocated Funds

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VII. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/ JULIAN U. HOFSCHEIDER
Chairman

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner Mary Margaret P. Camacho

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THEODORA PALACIOS CAMACHO, Deceased.

Civil Action No. 14-0181

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Date: Dec. 9, 2014
Time: 1:30 PM
Judge: David A. Wiseman

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE THEODORA PALACIOS CAMACHO OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mary Margaret P. Camacho, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Theodora Palacios Camacho, Deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition by Mary Margaret P. Camacho, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on December 9, 2014 at 1:30pm, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2014.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

Kilili: Few in NMI would benefit from Obama EO

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While President Obama’s executive order on immigration will affect millions of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. mainland, it will only have a minimal effect in the CNMI since a large chunk of the islands’ nonresident population is legal, said Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

“The President’s actions were generally expected to address the plight of individuals who are not legally present in the United States. My focus has been on individuals who are legally present, in most cases because they were allowed to enter the Northern Mariana Islands under Commonwealth immigration law.”

Sablan also provided a simple explanation in his weekly e-kilili newsletter. “President Obama announced on Thursday that he will be using his executive authority to address the situation of some of the 11 million persons who are not legally present in the United States. Although the Senate passed a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill in July 2013, the House of Representatives has not taken action. So the President stepped in. His action is primarily aimed at persons who do not have a legal status.”

In the CNMI, Sablan said “CW workers, E-2C investors, and the immediate relatives of U.S. and FAS citizens and caregivers who have been granted humanitarian parole are all legally present. But there may be some in the NMI, who have lost their legal status, who could benefit.”

He also reiterated that the president’s action does not provide any new pathway to citizenship, “but may make it easier for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and others eligible for naturalization by allowing the use of credit cards to pay the \$680 fee. Currently, only cash, check, or money order is accepted.”

In addition, Sablan said he’s been working on CNMI-specific policy decisions in a way that did not require presidential action, namely the extension of the CW program for another five years by the Secretary of Labor and extension of the availability of parole for the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens for another two years by the director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.

“And I was successful at reaching both of those goals this year,” he said.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said he has reached out to Sablan and asked him to dissect the President’s executive order

“because there are a lot of areas in that executive order that resemble what we’re trying to do here.

The governor said Obama’s executive order holds a lot of promise and could be a godsend to the thousands of long-term nonresident workers in the CNMI, if they’re included in the executive action.

“They’re parents of U.S. citizens and a lot of them have young children. I asked him [Sablan] to take a look at that. I’m worried, though, that the Republican Congress may not go for that and we might be back to an old gridlock situation. But that executive order, if we do it right, it should really have some benefit here especially for the longtime nonresident folks. We’re talking about people who pay taxes, are working, they’re out in the open, and they’re legal. In the next few days, President Obama and Vice President [Joe] Biden will go out in the nation and try to sell this idea.”

Human right activists and former Rota teacher Wendy Doromal said Obama has no choice but issue the executive order in the absence of a cooperative U.S. House of Representatives in helping fix the country’s broken immigration system.

“As an activist for immigration reform, I view President Obama’s action as a first step, a huge step, and a historic step in the right direction. As long as the U.S. Congress fails to act on this issue, the crisis will continue, forcing millions to live in fear and uncertainty. President Obama is sending the members of Congress a message to stop the political paralysis and get a bill passed. Hopefully, they will act and the CNMI’s legal nonresidents will get the long overdue status that they deserve.”

About 270,000 additional undocumented aliens would be eligible for relief under the expansion of Obama’s 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program. In the 2012 plan, the applicants had to be younger than 31 years of age and had to have arrived in the United States before June 15, 2007. Obama has expanded that plan to take away the age cap and he changed the arrival date to before Jan. 1, 2010.

Unfortunately, only a few in the CNMI would qualify for Obama’s executive order, Doromal said.

“Some CNMI nonresidents could qualify under these programs. However, what is really needed is for the [Consolidated Natural Resources Act] to be amended to include a status provision that would benefit the CNMI’s legal longtime (5 or more

years) nonresidents—whether longtime workers, E-2 investors or other categories of legal nonresidents. These longtime de facto citizens deserve to receive permanent residency after their years and decades of contributing to the CNMI as dedicated workers, law-abiding citizens and taxpayers.”

Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs founding president Rene Reyes said the President’s executive order is only a temporary relief and doesn’t address the concerns of longtime nonresident workers in the CNMI who not only have U.S. citizen children but also pay taxes and contribute to the local economy.

Reyes asked Sablan to call

the attention of policymakers in Washington, D.C., about the plight of these longtime nonresident workers in the CNMI who will be out of status once the CW program expires in 2019.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service said that on Nov. 20, 2014, the President announced a series of executive actions to crack down on illegal immigration at the border, prioritize deporting felons not families, and require certain undocumented immigrants to pass a criminal background check and pay taxes in order to temporarily stay in the U.S. without fear of deportation.

These initiatives include:

- Expanding the popula-

tion eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to young people who came to this country before turning 16 years old and have been present since Jan. 1, 2010, and extending the period of DACA and work authorization from two years to three years.

Allowing parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who have been present in the country since January 1, 2010, to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years, in a new Deferred Action for Parental Accountability program, provided they pass required background checks.

Expanding the use of pro-

visional waivers of unlawful presence to include the spouses and sons and daughters of lawful permanent residents and the sons and daughters of U.S. citizens.

Modernizing, improving and clarifying immigrant and nonimmigrant programs to grow our economy and create jobs.

Promoting citizenship education and public awareness for lawful permanent residents and providing an option for naturalization applicants to use credit cards to pay the application fee.

Further information about the President’s announcement is available here <http://www.dhs.gov/immigration-action>.



Coral Ocean Golf Resort

Enjoy a Traditional

Thanksgiving Feast

Come Celebrate the day with Family & friends

Thanksgiving Day Buffet

Thursday, November 27
Adult - \$26.00 | Child (4-11 yrs.) - \$15.00

Lunch

Bouquet of Garden Greens, Eggplant Caviar with Spicy Flat Bread, Ham Leg, Assorted Sushi, Assorted Seafood on ice (Shrimps, Mussels, etc) and several holiday themed desserts (Pumpkin Pie, Custard Pie, Cheesecakes, Baklava, etc) and of course our Juicy Baked Tom Turkey and many more. With bottomless champagne and ice tea

Special

- Free Pool Pass given to all customers (exp. 12/31/14)
- Free Golf Games for One (1) if guest party is Ten (10) or more
- Half Price on Buffet for One (1) if guest party is Five (5) or more

Dinner

Bouquet of Garden Greens, Hawaiian Poki and other various appetizers, Assorted Seafood on ice (Shrimps, Mussels, Oysters, Sashimi), Ham Leg, Beef Wellington and several holiday themed desserts (Pumpkin Pie, Sweet Potato Pie, Cheesecakes, Baklava, etc) and of course our Juicy Baked Tom Turkey and many more. With bottomless champagne and ice tea

Local Discount Inclusive in Price. For reservations, please call Coral Ocean Golf Resort at 234-7000 @Extension 623

Thanksgiving Packages

Room Only \$100.00

Room & Buffet \$150.00 for 2 pax
*Additional Person: Adult \$30.00 • Child \$ 20.00
This package is up to 5 members of family.
More than 6 members of family, another RSVN is required



Golf Promotion

Description	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Price	\$35	\$35-\$30 (\$5 off) or \$35-\$40	\$35	\$35-\$30 (\$5 off) or \$35-\$40	\$35	\$35-\$30 (\$5 off) or \$35-\$40	\$35-\$30 (\$5 off) or \$35-\$40
Offer I	1 Bottle of Water 1 Bottle of Sports Drink	*If pay \$40* Get Sushi with a Draft Beer or Chicken Chaser with a Draft Beer	1 Bottle of Water 1 Bottle of Sports Drink	*If pay \$40* Get Sushi with a Draft Beer or Chicken Chaser with a Draft Beer	1 Bottle of Water 1 Bottle of Sports Drink	*If pay \$40* Get Sushi with a Draft Beer or Chicken Chaser with a Draft Beer	*If pay \$40* Get Sushi with a Draft Beer or Chicken Chaser with a Draft Beer
Offer II	Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter		Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter		Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter		

Congratulations



YCO Hardware True Value®

On the Grand Opening of your Beach Road Branch

From the staff and management of



National Office Supply

Beach Road, South Garapan, Saipan • Tel. Nos. (670) 234-3197 to 9 | Store Fax No. (670) 235-3373 Office Fax No. (670) 234-3549

Guam Store: South Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning • Tel. Nos. (671) 734-0312/16 | Branch: Manhattan Plaza Building, Harmon • Tel. Nos. (671) 648-1008/09

Congratulations on your Grand Opening!



Greetings from

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Public comments sought on 10-year conservation plan

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Division of Fish and Wildlife is looking to stakeholders in the community for their help in planning next year's 2015 CNMI Wildlife Action Plan.

Last set in 2005, next year's plan, expected to finalized by late next year, will improve on the plan 10 years ago and aim for a "transparent, objective, and inclusive" approach to terrestrial and wildlife conservation in the CNMI for the next 10 years, according to DFW's Peter Perez.

Perez spoke at last week's Asian Pacific Academy of Science on behalf of Jill Liske-Clark, conservation manager at DFW, who heads the project.

Perez said the plan would be the "conservation roadmap" for the CNMI. Between conservation for game species and conservation for nearly extinct species, the plan would be for species "in the middle," Perez said.

"For all those species we see who are not game animals, do we have to wait for them to be extinct before we do something about them?" he asked.

The grant funding the plan, he said, targets non-game species to prevent their extinction.

The plan would come with a list of species with the "greatest conservation need," according to Perez.

Population size and trends, the range of a species, their reproduction potential, and how specialized they are in their niche would be looked at to create biological rankings for

these species.

Under the plan, a species like the Mariana crow, Mariana common moorhen, or the Tinian monarch would be ranked for "vulnerability." Also, "threats" like invasive vines or volcanic activity would be ranked according to their potential impacts on these species.

In preparing the plan, Perez said, DFW is asking three questions: What species most need help? What actions can the CNMI take to help these species? And what are the recommendable goals for the next 10 years or longer?

"We want everyone to participate. For this to work, you do need everybody to participate. We need to be able to make the right decisions," he said.

He said the plan hopes to pool the agencies at the CNMI state level and all non-governmental agencies in conservation work that complement each other.

He said they are looking forward to more stakeholder involvement this year than 2005's plan.

He said Liske-Clark would meet with agencies, stakeholders, and people in the community to get public and expert input.

The plan, according to Perez, would cover all CNMI's islands, and their terrestrial and marine wildlife.

The State Wildlife Grant Program funds the action plan or the "CNMI Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan/Strategy."

Liske-Clark can be reached at liskeclark.cnmidfw@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Transfer station, Marpi landfill closed on Thursday

In observance of Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, November 27, 2014, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed all day. Regular schedule will resume on Friday, Nov. 28, 2014, from 7:30am to 11:30am and 12:30pm to 4pm. (PR)

PTSA meeting for all Kagman schools

All parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in Kagman schools are being informed that there will be a PTSA meeting today, Nov. 25, from 6pm to 7pm at the Kagman High School cafeteria. Your attendance for this coming meeting is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at 664-3780. You may also email PTSA at kh-sayuyu@kagmanhigh.org or kagmanptsa@cnmipss.org

There is an incentive for KHS parents to get involved. Every event a KHS parent attends earns that parent a raffle ticket to be placed in the end-of-the-year raffle. Raffle tickets cannot be purchased. Parents can earn them by participating in their child's education. Start with attending this PTSA meeting. Grand prize is a flat screen TV! (PR)

CCA board meeting today

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting today, Nov. 25, 2014, at 3:00pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

YCO Hardware's True Value opens today at new site

YCO Hardware's True Value store opens its new location on Beach Road besides the Marianas Eye Institute today.

Dante Yumul, YCO's store manager, believes their new store will continue to serve the hardware needs of customer on islands with better parking and more space for its items.

Their new 10,000 square feet location is 4,000 sq. ft. more than their original site. A bigger facility, Yumul said, means more products and items to meet the hardware needs of its customers.

True Value will now sell appliances like refrigerators, washers, and dryers. The new store will also have an improved

tile, nuts and bolts, and plumbing sections, Yumul said.

"Customers can expect a bigger facility and new products," he said.

True Value is a family-run store. Dante is the youngest brother in his family. His dad Jess Yumul opened the store in 1975. The family has been serv-

ing customers for 39 years on island. Six months from now in April, they will be hosting their 40th anniversary celebration.

"We're still here 39 years later, opening a new location. This is home to us. This is what we do. We're hardware people. We serve the community this way," he said.

YCO Hardware is "geared to stay," Yumul said. He wants to thank the community for all the support during their almost four decades of business.

He hopes to have Christmas holiday specials in the next few weeks. In April, for their 40th anniversary, Yumul expects even

more promotions.

He invites the community to come in today and check out their new store. They are open from 8am to 5pm, from Monday to Saturday.

"We're always open to new suggestions. While we have a lot of new products, we might not have it all, so I'm sure we can custom-tailor things for our clients' needs," he said.

Sablan: No need for roadside fundraising for medical referral

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It has become a common sight to see people standing on road medians and asking for donations for a family member who needs to be medically referred off island. Yet for some of these patients, they've already been approved for referral and their treatment will be fully subsidized by the Medical Referral Services office.

According to MRS director Ronald Sablan, these people no longer need to raise funds for medical referral once they've been approved.

"People asking for support on the roads near the traffic intersection for medical referral are sometimes not true at all, so I don't understand why they do that," he said.

According to Sablan, the MRS office fully pays for all expenses if a patient is medically referred, whether it's for treatment or for transportation and accommodation.

Sablan said he himself have passed by these traffic intersections and knows if the patient really needs support or donation for medical referral.

"I think it's for pocket money but some of the names out there that I have seen, I go back to the office and check and if they are fully eligible and I sometimes wonder why they do that," Sablan said.

"It is not only about trying to understand that situation but it also jeopardizes their safety and well-being on the road," he added.

Sablan said he has seen family members of those already approved for medical referral still soliciting donations.

"I will be talking with legislators to come up with some kind of action against the people seeking donations in traffic intersections. If there is law against that then I will look into it. There has to be regulations to prohibit or allow it under certain conditions," Sablan said.

Congratulations
YCO Hardware
True Value
on the Grand Opening
of your Beach Road Branch

From the Management and staff of
WUSHIN CORPORATION
• Distributor of LP Gas & Accessories (Wholesale & Retail)
• Diesel Outlet

P.O. Box 500440, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 322-7415/322-8733 • Fax: 322-7414
Email: wushin2@pticom.com

LP GAS
WUSHIN

CONGRATULATIONS

YCO Hardware
True Value
on the
Grand Opening
of your
Beach Road Branch

FROM THE
MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF

FedEx
Express

CTSI LOGISTICS
25 YEARS

MARIANA
EXPRESS LINES, Ltd.

"We do not just move, store, forward, haul, distribute and deliver... we get things simply done like none other."
P.O. Box 501937, Lower Base, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel. No: 1 (670) 322-1690 • Fax No.: 1 (670) 322-1692

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMFS FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIV, Issue No. 234Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Tech industry must lead privacy fight

The Senate charade this week allowing the National Security Agency to continue spying on Americans' phone records would be laughable if it didn't have such dangerous implications for both the tech industry and consumer privacy.

One by one Senate Republicans stood up and announced their support for the NSA's "collect it all" mentality on the grounds that it's a crucial counterterrorism tool. Never mind that the United States has been able to point to only one, single case that came to light through a search of domestic phone records. And that one example was an Anaheim cabbie sending the vast sum of \$1,000 to an al-Qaida affiliate in Somalia. Yep, that makes all the spying worthwhile.

Silicon Valley and the American public must increase the pressure on Congress to come to its senses.

Consumer confidence in Silicon Valley's tech products continues to fall at alarming rates around the world. The latest projections are that it will cost the tech industry an estimated \$35 billion over the next three years. Don't buy it? The Pew Research Center recently reported that the percentage of Germans believing the U.S. government protects personal freedoms fell from 81 percent to 58 percent in the last year. In Brazil, it dropped from 76 to 51 percent.

Fortunately the fight is not over. The Senate failure to curb the NSA's data collection sets up what should be a lively debate next June on the future of the Patriot Act, the post 9/11 legislation that authorized the NSA's bulk collection of data. The Patriot Act needs to be reauthorized by the end of 2015 or it will expire. Senate Republicans are likely to learn that it's much harder to marshal the necessary votes to approve measures than it is to block them. What's needed is a reasonable compromise that balances the nation's need to keep would-be terrorists in check with reasonable privacy protections.

Technology firms would have a much better case in Congress and with the American public if they were more forthcoming themselves with consumers about how their personal information is being used. Tech firms successfully blocked a bill in the state Legislature in 2013 that would have accomplished that goal.

It's unlikely that the valley will be able to innovate itself out of this mess. The right to privacy is one of the nation's most treasured principles. Silicon Valley needs to take a more active role in protecting Americans' privacy—and restoring public trust in its products.

(c)2014 San Jose Mercury News (San Jose, Calif.)



The invasion that dare not say its name

It's time for President Obama to start using the I-word when referring to Russia's assault on Ukraine. I mean invasion.

The world is witnessing a Russian invasion of a neighboring country, something that hasn't happened since the fall of the Soviet Union (except for Russia's 2008 invasion of Georgia).

As U.S. Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove, NATO's top commander, stated bluntly last week: "Russian tanks, Russian artillery, Russian air defense systems, and Russian combat troops" have been moving into Ukraine. Repeatedly. "What worries me the most," Breedlove told reporters in Bulgaria, is that the Russia-Ukraine border is "completely porous. (Russian) forces, money, support, supplies, weapons are flowing back and forth across this border completely at will."

Yet so far, neither the president nor his European allies have been willing to call this influx an invasion. (Obama is edging closer but isn't there yet). U.S. officials fear that using the I-word would provoke Vladimir Putin.

In fact, the opposite is true. Unless the West stops pussyfooting around Putin, the Russian leader will complete his project of dismembering Ukraine and threaten other European states.

Of course, there's a political reason for the West's word games. "If they say it's an invasion, it would make people ask, 'Why aren't you doing more?'" said the Atlantic Council's John Herbst, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, "especially since this is happening in the heart of Europe."

Washington and the European Union have imposed economic sanctions on Moscow, which have hurt a Russian economy reeling from low oil prices but haven't moved Putin. U.S. and European officials have clung to the hope that sanctions will impel Putin to abide by the Minsk accord, a September deal between Kiev and Moscow. The accord was supposed to guarantee the sanctity of Ukraine's borders while ensuring that Russian-speakers in Ukraine's east gain autonomy and language rights—something Kiev was willing to grant.

However, Russia has violated the Minsk accords from the start.

Putin has sent arms, troops and hundreds of military trainers across into Ukraine to create a proxy army in the east. Its goal: to separate the Donbass region, including the districts of Donetsk and Luhansk, from the rest of the country and link them to Russia. Many of the fighters are Russian citizens or intelligence agents who enter Ukraine in unmarked uniforms and vehicles.

Putin has recognized a fake "elected government" in those two districts—a gross violation of the Minsk accord. He demands that Kiev negotiate with these proxies rather than their handlers in Moscow. Kiev rightly refuses.

All the while, Putin, his officials, and the Russian media lie with straight faces about this, just as they did about the Russian

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.



"green men" who invaded and occupied Crimea earlier this year. By refusing to confront Putin about his current invasion of eastern Ukraine, the West helps him sustain the fiction that his proxy war is a spontaneous revolt.

There is a ton of evidence to the contrary, even beyond what the West has collected from satellite photos. A few examples: European monitors, as well as Western and Russian journalists, have seen Russian military convoys cross the border, and convoys of dead Russian soldiers' bodies cross back. Russian journalists and soldiers' rights groups have reported on secret burials of repatriated casualties (and been beaten for doing so, since the government denies to its own people that any of its forces are in Ukraine.)

One Moscow contact told me of a friend's son, a Russian contract soldier wounded in Ukraine, who is being forced to accept treatment at a remote regional hospital rather than in Moscow because the government wants to keep the casualties secret. Russian polls show that 68 percent of the public would oppose having a relative sent to fight in Ukraine.

So it's past time that the White House started talking publicly about the Russian invasion of Ukraine—including Vice President Biden when he travels to Kiev this week. And once the I-word is used, it's also time for Obama to rethink his refusal to send defensive weapons to Ukraine. If he won't act, Congress should.

U.S. officials argue that there is no military solution to the Ukraine conflict. But Putin hasn't gotten that message. Russia is building up its forces on the Ukraine border and looks ready to seize a land corridor in southern Ukraine to link Russia to Crimea.

"If you send arms now, it might keep Putin from making the next land grab," said Herbst. "Not giving arms increases the risk, increases the chance of escalation."

In other words, the only thing that may make Putin think twice and return to diplomacy is if the cost of an escalated invasion will be too high, including the risk that his public will learn about casualties.

It's time to stop enabling Putin by refusing to call his invasion by its rightful name.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

It's fight night over immigration

Welcome to the Cable News Boxing Channel. Tonight, like every night, our main event features the same two heavyweights—Congressional Republicans versus the Obama White House.

This time, they are battling over immigration reform.

There's the opening bell—and once again both fighters are immediately punching furiously, landing powerful lefts and rights to the head and body. But wait! We've never seen anything quite like this—both boxers are standing in their own corners and punching themselves in the head and body.

It looks to ringsiders like these heavyweights just don't get it. Both boxers must think all they have to do to win is pile up points for each punch they land. But they are only hurting themselves—and it sure doesn't look pretty.

Here's the slo-mo replay—it's easy to see where they both went so wrong.

Republican leaders know that even their stunning victories in capturing control of Congress in 2014 are no guarantee for winning the White House in 2016. Democrats have a solid electoral vote margin in the big states. And Republican strategists realize that to win there, their party must appeal to the ever-increasing number of new Hispanic voters.

Yet they began their 2014 post-election victory era by inflicting unnecessary damage to their chances of doing that. They immediately reverted to looking like the same-old, same-old Republicans who are determined to block President Obama from any success. Even if it means splitting up families of undocumented Hispanic immigrants who were in America, working and law-abiding for years.

Most importantly, GOP strategists realize demographic trends all

show America's nonwhite voters—especially Hispanics—are growing far faster than white voters. One study, by the left-tilting Center for American Progress, estimated that in Texas in 2016, some 900,000 Hispanics will become eligible to vote, compared to 185,000 newly eligible white voters. While those precise estimates may be open to question, the trend is beyond doubt. It was the reason former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush suggested this year that Texas may actually become a Democratic Blue state by 2016.

It was also the reason one conservative Texas duo—former President George W. Bush and his longtime strategist, Karl Rove—dreamed for years of remolding Republicans' image by having the GOP sponsor reforms that curbed deportations of undocumented immigrants.

But their dream fizzled, and today's conservatives sneeringly call such thinking “liberal.” But the more Republicans thought they were punching at Obama this month, the more they were really punching out their own prospects for appealing to Hispanics in 2016.

Enter Obama. Fresh from the pain of his party's (and, really, his own) midterm election defeats this month, the president jumped quickly into the immigration reform ring. But his opening salvos mainly kayoed his own credibility.

Obama declared he would issue an executive order to halt a number of deportations that were required by law. The problem here was that Obama, a former constitutional law professor, had already established a record of rejecting suggestions that he could issue executive actions to avoid deportations Congress had required. And fact-checking journalists soon spotlighted them.

September 2013: “If we start broadening that, then essentially I'll be ignoring the law in a way that I think would be very difficult to

By MARTIN SCHRAM

Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.



defend legally. So that's not an option.”

January 2013: “I'm not a king. You know, my job as the head of the executive branch ultimately is to carry out the law. And, you know, when it comes to enforcement of our immigration laws ... we can't simply ignore the law.”

Obama had made himself look duplicitous. Even though he was just trying to achieve the reform he had promised to get done years ago.

But in the end, the Republican leaders may have just hurt their once-Grand Old Party in ways that are most damaging—perhaps even irreparable.

Last April, Fox News Channel's Bill O'Reilly discussed all of that with Rove. The strategist laid out ideas for how a conservative reform package might have satisfied progressive goals, yet molded a bright red presidential future for his party. To which O'Reilly offered a final prophecy:

“The Republican Party must compromise on the immigration issue or it will lose the presidency again in 2016.”

Post-midterms, back to gridlock as usual

In the two weeks since President Barack Obama and top Republican congressional leaders vowed to seek common ground following GOP election victories, that goal has remained elusive.

On issue after issue, the two sides are taking positions and threatening fights that renew the battles that have marked much of the Obama presidency.

A big reason is that, behind their promises of cooperation is a basic disagreement about the election's meaning: Republicans interpreted it as a repudiation of Obama and everything he stands for, while Democrats saw it as a vote against bipartisan gridlock and a plea to get something done.

As a result, legislative confrontations loom in at least four major cases where GOP lawmakers remain determined to keep blocking Obama's priorities: immigration, climate change, a nuclear agreement with Iran and the Affordable Care Act. And in a fifth area—the Keystone pipeline—it's the Republicans who want action and the president who is resisting.

Here is what's involved:

Keystone Pipeline. The conservative-dominated House GOP last week passed legislation to build the controversial project the Obama White House has stalled for several years, pending a State Department study of environmental concerns.

Politics is behind the flurry of action: House Republicans scheduled last week's vote to boost GOP Rep. Bill Cassidy in his Dec. 6 Louisiana Senate runoff against Democratic Sen. Mary Landrieu.

Tuesday's Senate vote was scheduled so Landrieu could show her clout, but the measure missed the required 60 votes by one.

In any case, Obama signaled he'd probably veto it by questioning

the economic benefit of a project that would mainly bring Canadian oil through the United States for overseas export. And in Louisiana, polls show Cassidy well ahead.

Immigration. Nearly 17 months after a bipartisan Senate majority passed a compromise immigration bill, the White House has gotten tired of waiting for Speaker John Boehner to fulfill repeated promises of House action. Now, Obama plans to use his executive authority to put portions into effect, allowing up to 5 million illegal entrants to remain legally in the United States.

He is proceeding despite increasingly fervent GOP warnings against unilateral action. Incoming Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell likens it to “waving a red flag in front of a bull,” while Boehner vows that, if Obama acts, House Republicans will fight him “tooth and nail,” something they've already been doing.

This issue is especially important to Democrats. Obama damaged himself with Hispanic leaders by delaying action last summer in a futile effort to save several embattled Democratic senators. Now, he needs to fulfill his promise to act and probably won't mind if Republicans once more oppose a top Hispanic priority.

Climate change. Last week, Obama reached a ground-breaking agreement with China on climate control, the first time the Chinese have been willing to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

Republicans promptly denounced it, and some hope to amend the year-end funding bill to deny funds for carrying out this pact and the EPA's decision to curb emissions at home. That might produce an Obama veto—and a government shutdown.

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him via email at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.



Iran nuclear agreement. Even before the U.S. concludes talks with Iran on a potentially ground-breaking agreement curbing its nuclear program, Republicans and pro-Israel Democrats are warning they might oppose it.

Obamacare. Though McConnell has backed off his campaign pledge “to pull it out root and branch,” other Republicans still want to stop funding the Affordable Care Act, possibly by amending the year-end funding bill or a subsequent measure; that too could bring a presidential veto shutting down the government.

Given all this, it's hard to see where compromises can be reached, short of one side or the other abandoning its position.

Even if Obama delayed the effective date of his immigration executive orders to June 30, there is no evidence the House would act, meaning the same conflict would recur then.

The most likely compromises are in areas where legislation has not yet been written, such as tax reform. But what you see this week is probably what you're going to get for the next two years.

The new, scary, up and at 'em Obama

President Barack Obama, who was once a seemingly laid back, autocratically minded, economically confused, deceptive, politically klutzy, often naive Big Government worshipper, has changed since an election in which voters said they were dismayed at his doings. He is not laid back anymore.

Consider, for instance, his frenzied, constitutionally dubious determination to disregard congressional objections with an executive order granting deferred deportation to 5 million illegal immigrants. Then consider how he himself has previously said immigration laws are “very clear,” that his job is to “execute” these “congressional mandates,” that the “easy way out” would be for him to violate the laws, but that he was “not the emperor of the United States.”

Though here assembled in one sentence, those words are from utterances he made on a number of past occasions as recently reported by The New York Times. Though Obama has said that at those times he was referring to a comprehensive revamping of immigration law, the Times says he was responding to questions specifically referring to the kind of action he is now talking about.

So instead of heeding his own admonitions or being brought to reasonableness by a midterm election that should at the least have

encouraged attempts at compromise with a new Republican-controlled Congress, he is taking the “easy way out.” He is turning to “emperor”-like executive fiat that can squeeze through the courts only as a result of legalistically strained machinations winning out over “very clear laws.” There is no hurry, there are additions to his plan that are badly needed for the country's sake, and, in acting with a defiance no precedent equals, he is setting one himself that jeopardizes democracy.

Next we have our busy president asking the Federal Communications Commission to regulate the Internet as a public utility to salvage something called net neutrality, meaning equal treatment of customers by service providers.

It's complicated, but allowing these providers to treat some users differently from other users as a matter of market sense in a competitive industry appears to be little if any threat at all to average users. The government's scarcely infrequent overkill in regulatory schemes, however, could well be a terrible threat. The way of visualizing it is to imagine sitting down at your computer and finding no changes for the worse and sitting down at it and finding the screen mostly covered with irremovable strips of red tape.

Then there's this climate-change deal ever-scrambling Obama made with Chinese officials whose way of keeping promises is

By JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.



not to. China told Obama—wink, wink—that something nice might happen with its greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 and Obama in effect said America would itself try harder to emit less, meaning we will sacrifice more and compete less. What this is about is lots of hope and very little change from what China would do anyway and what Obama already had in mind to quiet that noisy energy boom.

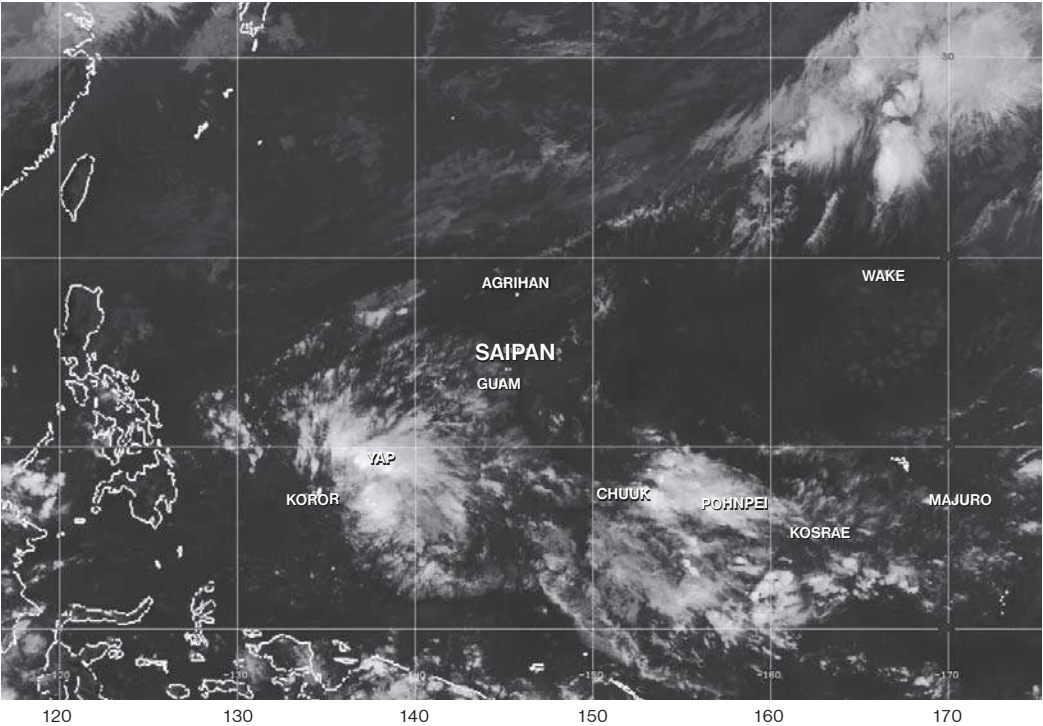
The upshot of all of this is a president fixed in his error-prone ways and giving political battle priority over negotiation. It would be ruinous if a Republican-controlled Congress responded in kind.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front curves southwestward from east of Minami Tori Shima near 25N160E to 20N149E then continues as a shear line to end near 19N137E. Cloudiness, patchy rain and a few thunderstorms are found up to 200 miles north of the front. Patchy clouds and rain are seen up to 250 miles north of the shear line. Converging winds to the southeast of the front are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 60 miles of a line from 23N166E to 25N165E. A tropical disturbance centered south of Yap near 8N138E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Yap state within 220 miles of a line from 13N136E to 5N144E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Chuuk and over Pohnpei south of a line from 6N150E to 9N155E to 8N160E. Low-level convergence is igniting scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Kosrae and Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 1N160E to 3N164E to 4N172E. Similar conditions are present east of Majuro east of a line from 6N175E to 10N175E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Cloudy	▲73	▼60
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲49	▼27
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼67
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼68
London	Mostly Sunny	▲48	▼36
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼54
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼51
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼74
New York	Rain	▲68	▼51
Osaka	Rain	▲60	▼54
Paris	Cloudy	▲51	▼47
Pusan	Showers	▲60	▼46
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼51
Salem	Rain	▲55	▼50
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65	▼53
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲55	▼40
Tokyo	Rain	▲55	▼50
Washington, DC	Windy	▲75	▼49

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:17 AM	Today	High Tide:	-0.5 Feet
10:17 AM	Today	Low Tide:	2.0 Feet
3:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.2 Feet
8:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:26 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	8:38 AM	8:23 PM
Wednesday	9:34 AM	9:22 PM
Thursday	10:27 AM	10:21 PM
Friday	11:18 AM	11:20 PM
Saturday	12:06 PM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION

Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING

For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764A	1:30am	5:30am	4, 7
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:50pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:30pm	5:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763A	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	4, 7
GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1,5 via GUM
PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM
DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM
UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:59pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:59pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:59pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

2014 Runoff Election



JAYSON CAMACHO

Hofschneider-Yumul supporters flash their blue and white colors in Kagman last Friday.



JAYSON CAMACHO

Children of Inos-Torres supporters dance on the road near the entrance to the Kagman Elementary School road last Friday.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Voters line up at polling places during Friday's gubernatorial runoff race. Inos-Torres came out as a sure winner, according to unofficial counting results by the Commonwealth Election Commission.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Independent candidates Heinz Hofschneider and Ray Yumul address supporters after last Friday's runoff vote counting was over.



MARK RABAGO

Senate President Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan) talks to NMI Republican Party supporters while Gov. Eloy S. Inos looks on shortly before midnight Friday at the GOP headquarters in Springs Plaza.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Voters from Precinct 3B line up at the Garapan Elementary School cafeteria for their turn at the voting booths.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Election officers from the island's precincts sort the votes before the Commonwealth Election Commission began their counting.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Commonwealth Election Commission officials are busy at work during last Friday night's runoff election vote counting.

Live The Fiesta Way!

舞 MAI
teppanyaki
NOW OPEN FOR DINNER



Offers a unique culinary and cultural experience for you to enjoy. From the decadent Foie Gras, melt in your mouth Wagyu Beef and Fresh Live Lobster.

Open Daily for Dinner from 6:00pm to 9:30pm.
For reservations please call 233-6414 / 483-0462 / 234-6414
ext. 1548 / 1544



Business

20 things every 20-something should know about credit

By MORGAN QUINN
GOBANKINGRATES.COM

If I could relive my 20s again, there are a few things I would do differently. First, I would have called my mom before getting that tattoo. Second, I would have driven right past the animal shelter. And third, I would have paid a lot more attention to my credit. Lucky for you, I learned those lessons the hard way so you don't have to.

So, after you get off the phone with your mom and finish searching for dog-friendly apartments, read this list of 20 things every 20-something should know about credit.

1 Credit scores range anywhere from 300–850.

Your credit score is an indicator of how much of a credit risk you are to issuers. The higher the credit score, the better.

2 You have three credit scores.

There are three major credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. Each one maintains a separate FICO score for each consumer in its database. As a result, you have three separate scores and three separate credit reports, which leads to ...

3 Credit reports are not the same things as credit scores.

Your credit score is calculated off the information on your credit report. Your report shows your history of using credit, including every open and closed account you have, your payment history, credit limits and balance owed. Your credit score, also known as a FICO score, is based off that information.

4 Having good credit isn't just about getting credit cards and loans.

When it comes to maintaining good credit, many people think of qualifying for a loan or credit card. A healthy credit history can help you secure financing and save you thousands on interest rates, but it can also lower your insurance premiums, help you rent a place to live or waive certain deposit requirements. According to FICO's testimony before a House Financial Services subcommittee, its scores are used in about 10 billion decisions worldwide each year.

5 You are entitled to a free credit report from each bureau once a year.

Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, you can get a free copy of your credit report once each year from each of the three major credit bureaus at annualcreditreport.com. However, these reports will not contain your FICO scores. You will have to sign up for services or pay a fee to access those.

You can space out your free

credit reports so you get one every four months. This tactic helps you maintain a healthy credit report and keep tabs on any potential fraudulent activity.

6 Bad credit doesn't have to haunt you forever.

Your credit score is just a snapshot of your current credit situation; it will change as your history improves or worsens.

7 There are five factors that affect your credit scores.

FICO breaks down your credit history into five categories, each with different weights. The five elements are: payment history (35 percent of the total score), credit utilization (30 percent), length of credit history (15 percent), new credit (10 percent) and credit mix (10 percent).

8 There is no single trick to raising your credit score.

There is no one-size-fits-all path to a better credit score. The best thing to do is request your credit scores and look at the "score factors." Those will tell you the top four reasons your scores aren't higher. Once you have identified what is affecting your credit scores negatively, you can start making changes to improve them.

9 You do not need to have debt to have a credit score.

There is a popular myth out there that you have to have debt to have a credit score. In fact, some people believe credit scores reward people who have debt and that being debt-free means you will have a credit score of "0." The truth is, the way the scoring models work means it's impossible to have a "0" credit score. Also, the scoring systems actually penalize you for having debt. You can pay your balance in full each month to grow your credit score without taking on any debt.

10 Your credit score will not drop if you pull your own reports or scores.

You can check your own credit reports and scores without hurting your credit history. It has no effect on your credit.

11 Making the minimum payment is the worst way to pay off credit card debt.

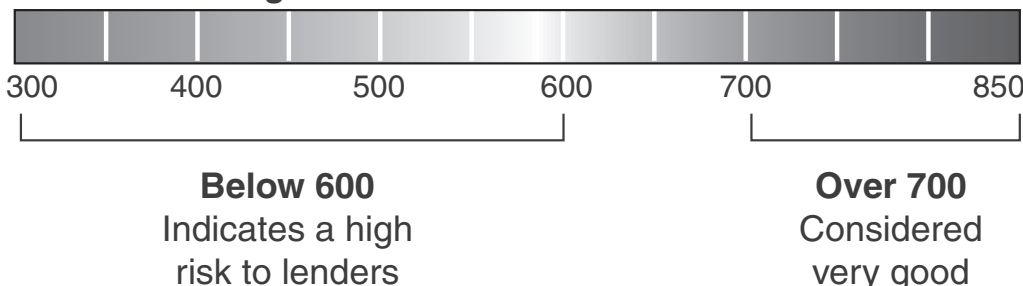
Making the minimum payment is the longest and most expensive way to pay off credit card debt. For example, if you make minimum payments (say, 2.5 percent) on a card with a \$2,500 balance and 18 percent APR, it could take you 204 months to pay off the debt and cost you \$3,173 in interest. Yikes!

12 Making a payment that is less than the minimum doesn't count.

Knowing your credit score

A credit score is a number, usually between 300 and 850, that is calculated based on your credit history. It is a measurement of how likely you are to pay back a loan on time. Different companies use different ranges of scores, so your score could vary depending on the company preparing the report. The most commonly used score is a FICO score.

Credit score range



Getting your credit score and credit report

You must pay a fee to receive your credit score, but credit reports are available free of charge by federal law. One report per year is available from each of the three primary credit reporting agencies. To order a report visit annualcreditreport.com or call 877-322-8228.

Source: Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Consumer Federation of America, Fair Isaac Corp.
Graphic: Chicago Tribune/Tribune News Service

Making less than the minimum payment counts as a missed payment, which will bring down your credit score, trigger a late fee and possibly raise your interest rate. If you can't make your minimum payments, call your credit card issuer ASAP.

13 You must use your credit card to build credit history.

Using your credit card should not be confused with keeping a running balance. A smart strategy is to use the card each month and pay the balance off in full. Keep tabs on what you spend so you don't get hit with a high bill you can't pay back.

14 Be wary of retail cards.

When compared to traditional credit cards, retail credit cards are usually very easy to get, have low credit limits and very high interest rates.

Sure, discounts at your favorite store can be tempting, but are you really saving money if you are more tempted to shop or you can't pay your bill in full?

15 Maxing out your credit cards damages your credit score.

Even if you don't exceed your credit limit, running up your bill to the maximum allowed will have a huge negative impact on your credit score. Some experts recommend keeping your balance under 30 percent utilization, but the safest thing to do is just pay your bill in full each month.

16 You can negotiate with your credit card issuer.

It is possible to negotiate the terms, interest rates and payments on credit balances. If you are faced with a large bill you can't pay, you can sometimes negotiate the total balance of the credit card debt owed. If you

end up settling credit card debt, you will be required to pay the new total in full and you should expect your card to be closed and your credit reports to take a hit. Negotiating your credit card debt should only be done in an emergency.

17 There is a difference between good debt and bad debt.

Borrowing money at a low rate to purchase a home or car isn't bad debt; you need a home to live in and you probably need a car to get to work or school. There are personal finance experts that promote the idea of paying cash for everything, including a new home or car, but that option doesn't work for everyone. Bad debt is expensive debt, including high interest credit card debt or student loans, especially if your post-graduation payments will push you close to the poverty line.

18 Employers can pull your credit reports.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act allows employers to pull your credit reports as part of employment screening. Some states restrict the use of credit reports for employment screening but it has not been outlawed altogether. Also, once you have been hired, employers maintain the right to pull your reports at any time during your employment. While credit reports do nothing to determine your ability to perform job duties, they can shed light on personality traits, like responsibility. Of course, credit reports don't tell the entire story and this might not seem fair, but keeping your credit history as pristine as possible will help you stand out in a sea of applicants.

19 Prepaid or secured credit cards won't fix your bad credit.

A secured credit card is offered by most major credit card issuers and allows the user to make a deposit, or prepayment, equal to the credit limit. These cards are reported to the three major credit bureaus, but they do very little to help you build credit. There is some value, but it takes more than just a secured card to negate any derogatory items on your credit history. These cards are best for people who are establishing credit for the very first time.

20 Having bad credit doesn't make you a bad person.

The good thing about making credit mistakes in your 20s is that you have plenty of time to fix them. This is the time in your life to make mistakes, learn hard lessons and develop good habits that will last a lifetime.

Morgan Quinn writes for [GOBankingRates.com](http://gobankingrates.com) (<http://gobankingrates.com>), a leading portal for personal finance news and features, offering visitors the latest information on everything from interest rates to strategies on saving money, managing a budget and getting out of debt.

United extends onboard streaming to Android devices

CHICAGO (Chicago Tribune)—United Airlines customers can now use Android devices to wirelessly stream movies and TV shows from the airline's free on-demand video entertainment service, the Chicago-based carrier said Friday.

The service announced in March was previously available only for laptops and Apple devices, shutting out smartphones and tablets that run Android, the most popular mobile operating system.

The latest United app update in the Google Play store lets travelers watch hundreds of TV shows and movies on Android

smartphones and tablets.

Not all United aircraft are equipped to stream video to devices.

Almost 200 United mainline aircraft offer personal device entertainment now, and United has said it will expand the video streaming to other planes, including United Express regional jets.

Streaming video content, stored in onboard servers, so far is available on the carrier's Airbus A319, Airbus A320 and Boeing 747 fleets and its Boeing 777 aircraft that operate primarily between the continental United States and Hawaii.

Fliers can determine on Unit-

ed.com whether a flight offers personal device entertainment, along with Wi-Fi and in-seat power. To keep devices running, United has said it is also in the process of installing seat-based power outlets to fleets getting the personal-device entertainment systems.

By late 2015, most United and United Express aircraft will offer personal device entertainment, personal on-demand entertainment via seatback monitors or live television, United said.

The airline advises customers to download the latest United app from the Google Play store or the Apple App Store before

boarding.

Airlines have offered in-flight wireless Internet access for personal devices for some time, but they only began offering streamed TV and movie content in recent years.

"Travelers increasingly want to watch entertainment on their own devices, as shown by the measurable improvement in satisfaction among travelers who fly on aircraft with personal device programming," said Tom O'Toole, United's senior vice president of marketing and loyalty and president of its frequent-flyer program MileagePlus.

Nation

Anxieties mount as Ferguson waits on grand jury

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—Despite preparations for a week-end decision in the Ferguson shooting case, the grand jurors apparently need more time to deliberate, and the uncertainty just seemed to feed the anxiety and speculation Sunday in a city already on edge.

More than 3 1/2 months have passed since police Officer Darren Wilson, who is white, killed unarmed black 18-year-old Michael Brown after a confrontation in the middle of

a street in the St. Louis suburb. The shooting triggered riots and looting, and police responded with armored vehicles and tear gas.

Many in the area thought a grand jury decision on whether to charge Wilson on whether a crime would be announced Sunday, based partly on a stepped-up police presence in the preceding days, including the setting up of barricades around the building where the panel was meeting.

The grand jurors met Friday but apparently didn't reach a decision, and they were widely expected to reconvene on Monday, though there was no official confirmation of that.

Protesting on Sunday night, Reggie Cunningham said he doubted Wilson will be indicted and it seemed authorities were delaying an announcement "to spin this in the most positive way possible."

"The more that they drag this out, the angrier people are go-

ing to be," said Cunningham, 30, of St. Louis.

During church services, some pastors encouraged their flocks not to fret.

A choir sang, "We need you Lord right now" at the predominantly black Greater Grace Church in Ferguson. The pastor, Bishop L.O. Jones, referred to the pending grand jury decision briefly.

"Everybody stand to your feet and tell somebody, 'Don't be afraid. God is still in control,'"

Jones said as church members repeated after him.

The Rev. Freddy Clark of Shalom Church in nearby Florissant told the mostly black interdenominational congregation that "justice will be served" whichever way the decision goes, because God will take care of it.

"None of us are pleased about what happened," said parishioner James Tatum. "Whatever the verdict is, we have to understand that's the verdict."

As they wait, some people have continued daily protests, while speculation has grown that the delays are intentional.

"People feel like it's been engineered, so that the results wouldn't come out until after the election and until the weather got cold, and it would be more difficult to protest," said Susan McGaugh, supervisor of the Criminal Defense Clinic at the Saint Louis University School of Law. "It's really adding fuel to the fire."

Church members each get \$500 to do good for world

CHICAGO (AP)—On a very memorable Sunday, Pastor Laura Truax surprised her congregation with a bold announcement: She was about to hand out money to everyone.

LaSalle Street Church had received a tidy \$1.6 million from a real estate deal, the pastor said, and \$160,000—a typical 10 percent tithe—would be divided among some 320 regular attendees. Each would get a \$500 check to do something positive.

LaSalle, a non-denominational church, has long been involved in social causes, from feeding homeless families to buying an ambulance for a medical clinic in Niger.

Not surprisingly, many donations will reach far-flung places, including a school in the Himalayas and an irrigation project in Tanzania. Closer to home, some checks are helping needy friends.

Church members, Truax says, are doing just what she'd envisioned when she distributed the checks in September.

"I hoped that they would recognize the power they had to bless others and change somebody's life," she says. "... And that has largely happened."

Jeliner Jordan remembers being young and in debt.

More than 40 years ago, she was a divorced mother of three who couldn't stretch her seamstress earnings far enough to support her kids. She took out a loan of about \$4,000 to attend a business college, expecting it would lead to better opportunities—and it did.

But she never forgot the pressure of making payments, then falling behind before eventually settling her debt.

Aware that her granddaughter, Deitra Galloway, was saddled with college loans, Jordan knew what she'd do with part of her church money: She gave Galloway \$300, figuring it might cover a month's payment. She was shocked when her granddaughter revealed her school debt was in the many thousands.

A grateful Galloway, 26, used the money instead to help pay a loan on her used car. It was just



In this Nov. 19, 2014 photo, Lakeview High School teacher Kristin Hu, right, who attends the LaSalle Street Church, poses for a portrait with student Lucy, outside the school in Chicago.

another example of her grandmother's generosity, including taking her to Paris when she was in college. "I always thought she was rich because she would do these things for me and it never seemed like money was an obstacle," she says.

Far from it. Jordan, now 71, is a meticulous planner who watches every dollar.

"She's a great role model," Galloway says.

Jordan, who had a long career in the insurance industry but still enjoys sewing, divided her remaining money between a local arts program and a nearby elementary school.

"It's not possible to give without receiving," she says. "And what I received immediately is joy."

At first, Jonas Ganz figured he'd go the traditional charity route, helping those with basic needs.

But his friends are trying to raise \$25,000 to build the Seven Hills Skate Park in Amman, Jordan, and pitching in to help, he says, seemed "the right thing to do."

Ganz grew up in Amman, spending many hours there on his skateboard.

He says he knows there are more urgent needs in life, but doing good is about more than tending to the essentials.

"This project has the potential to have a lasting impact on the

community," he says.

Ganz donated \$450 to the park—the rest to World Vision, a Christian international relief agency.

Now a junior at Moody Bible Institute, Ganz, 20, is returning to Jordan, where his parents are helping Syrian refugees. He plans to study Arabic.

Ganz recently had knee surgery for a soccer injury so his sports days are temporarily on hold.

But when he packs up his gear, he'll include a favorite possession: his skateboard.

Kristin Hu was inspired by her grandmother, Irene, who died in June.

When Hu received her \$500, she remembered how her grandmother worked until she was 80, giving piano lessons, using her savings to help eight grandchildren pay for college.

As a political science teacher at Lakeview High School, a melting pot of ethnicities, Hu wanted to help some kids who don't have a guardian angel: the Dreamers, those young immigrants brought to the U.S. as children without legal permission, raised here and now going public, fighting to stay.

Hu, 29, was moved after hearing an impassioned speech by Lucy, an accomplished Mexican-born Dreamer in her class, who spoke of how she and oth-

ers want to attend college but don't qualify for financial aid because of their status.

"They have amazing potential, but our country isn't investing in them the way they should," Hu says. "Many of them are so motivated. ... They've really touched me."

Hu plans to give \$500 to a Dreamer organization or start a scholarship foundation for the kids.

LaSalle's program, she says, also made her think about the importance of "paying it forward and giving back."

She credits her grandmother for setting her on the right path.

"I think this is living out her legacy," Hu says. "I'd like to be there for someone else."

Randy Dill was almost in a panic to find the right place for his donation—and do it quickly.

"I wanted a 100 percent return on my investment," he says.

But then he slowed down to conduct a careful search for a place to help the unemployed and those trying to boost their skills to earn more money.

Dill, a 36-year-old supervisor at a suburban Chicago assembly plant, eventually settled on the Jane Addams Resource Corporation. The nonprofit helps low-income people with worker training, financial coaching and other services so they can be self-sufficient.

Dill's wife, Erika, is using her \$500 to help needy families at their daughters' public school buy winter clothes for their kids.

"What the money did for us was help open our eyes to some things that we take granted," Randy Dill says. "This was a not-so-subtle reminder how fortunate we are and those things that we have, such as good health, are blessings that are so easy to ignore."

Dill hopes the donations will eventually pay bigger dividends.

"This was a moment that kind of defines the congregation," he says. "I have no idea how this will look five or 10 years from now. I think we're all reading a book and nobody knows how this thing will end."

Boy with fake gun dies after shot by Ohio officer

CLEVELAND (AP)—A 12-year-old boy shot by police after grabbing what turned out to be a replica gun died from his wounds Sunday, a day after officers responded to a 911 call about someone waving a "probably fake" gun at a playground.

Deputy Chief Ed Tomba said one officer fired twice after the boy pulled the fake weapon—which was lacking the orange safety indicator usually found on the muzzle—from his waistband but had not pointed it at police. The boy did not make any verbal threats but grabbed the replica handgun after being told to raise his hands, Tomba said.

"That's when the officer fired," he said.

The Cuyahoga County medical examiner identified the boy as Tamir Rice. An attorney for his family, Timothy Kucharski, said the boy went to the park with friends Saturday afternoon, but he did not know the details of what led to the shooting.

Former DC Mayor Marion Barry dies at 78

WASHINGTON (AP)—A controversial and tireless advocate for the nation's capital who created jobs for generations of black families, Marion Barry was the ultimate District of Columbia politician, though his arrest for drug use in the midst of a crack cocaine epidemic often overshadows his accomplishments.

The former four-term mayor will long be remembered for one night in 1990 when he was caught on video lighting a crack pipe in an FBI sting operation. In an instant, the then-mayor of the capital city was exposed as a drug user himself.

Barry, 78, died Sunday at the United Medical Center, after having been released from a hospital a day earlier. His spokeswoman, LaToya Foster, said he collapsed outside his home.

Barry died naturally of heart problems caused by high

"I don't want to make a rush to judgment," he said.

The police department is investigating the shooting and both officers involved have been placed on administrative leave, which is standard procedure. The county prosecutor's office also is investigating.

Kucharski said he wants to talk to witnesses himself and get more facts.

"We're ultimately going to find out what happened," Kucharski said.

Police said the weapon was an "airsoft" type replica that resembled a semi-automatic handgun. The orange safety indicator had been removed, police said.

A man who called 911 told dispatchers the boy was on a swing set and pointing a pistol that was "probably fake" and scaring everyone.

The caller said the boy was pulling the gun in and out of his pants.



Barry

blood pressure, and his kidney disease was a contributing factor, the D.C. medical examiner said. Barry had a kidney transplant several years ago.

Barry first made a name for himself in the South as a leader in the civil rights movement and brought his fierce advocacy to D.C. to support the fight to free the city to manage its own city affairs, not Congress. That legacy was remembered Sunday at the White House upon news of Barry's death.

"Marion was born a sharecropper's son, came of age during the Civil Rights movement, and became a fixture in D.C. politics for decades," President Barack Obama said. "During his decades in elected office in D.C., he put in place historic programs to lift working people out of poverty, expand opportunity and begin to make real the promise of home rule."

Asia

Afghan official: Suicide attack death toll at least 50

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A suicide bomber blew himself up at a volleyball tournament in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday, killing at least 50 people in the country's deadliest terrorist attack this year, officials said.

The bloodshed came just hours after Parliament approved agreements allowing U.S. and NATO troops to remain in the country past the end of the year.

Dozens more were wounded, many critically, said Mokhlis Afghan, spokesman for the governor of Paktika province. He said the bomber was mingling with the large crowd at the sporting event in Yahyakhail district when he set off the explosives.

"There were too many people gathered in the one place to watch the game," Afghan said.

Naseeb Ahmad, a doctor at Sharan Hospital in Paktika's capital, said the hospital received about 80 wounded people, 20 of them children. Officials said people of all ages were watching the adult-league inter-district tournament.

Volleyball is a popular sport in Afghanistan, played across the country, and the attacker is likely to have targeted the event to ensure maximum casualties. It is also possible that the presence of local police in the crowd made it an attractive target, as security forces are regularly attacked by insurgents.

Dozens take refuge from Japan quake aftershocks

TOKYO (AP)—Dozens of villagers remained in shelters Monday as aftershocks rattled a region in central Japan hit by a weekend earthquake that injured at least 41 people and destroyed more than 50 homes.

The damage in a mountainous area that hosted the 1998 winter Olympics was worse than initially thought, though many were rejoicing at the lack of any deaths.

At least 20 people, including one 2-year-old, were pulled from homes toppled by the magnitude-6.7 earthquake late Saturday night.

Seven of the injured had broken bones, many after being crushed by heavy furniture as they slept on their tatami floors.

Local experts said the structure of the mostly wooden houses, which are built to withstand loads of many feet of heavy, wet snow in the winter, helped prevent more casualties.

Some said they used the flashlights on their mobile phones to find their way to safety in the pitch dark.

"Words cannot express my gratitude," Kimito Tsutaki, 73, told national broadcaster NHK after she was pulled from her quilt bedding. Neighbors used a car jack to lift collapsed timbers from on top of her.

No one claimed responsibility, and the Taliban's spokesman could not be reached by telephone.

Paktika, bordering Pakistan, is one of Afghanistan's most volatile regions, a place where Taliban and affiliated insurgent groups like the Haqqani network are waging an intensifying war against the government in Kabul.

Sunday's attack was characteristic of Haqqani operations, as the group regularly sends young men to carry out suicide attacks on high-profile targets.

Attacks that kill women and children cause particular outrage, and the Taliban have been known to avoid claiming responsibility or to blame deaths on security forces.

Earlier this year, a suicide bomber blew up a car packed with explosives near a busy market and a mosque in Paktika's Urgan district. The death toll was originally thought to have been close to 90, but was later revised down to 43. That attack was, until Sunday, Afghanistan's worst for 2014.

Attacks across the country have escalated this year amid a contentious election and President Ashraf Ghani's inauguration in September. The insurgents use their attacks to make clear their opposition to Ghani's administration, as well as his

The quake, which struck west of Nagano city at a relatively shallow depth of 5 kilometers (3 miles), was in an area prone to strong earthquakes due to

Afghan children are treated at Paktika hospital after suicide attack in the Yahyakhail district of Paktika province east of Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014.

support for a security agreement with the U.S., which he signed immediately after taking office.

Afghanistan's Parliament approved the agreement on Sunday with the U.S. and another with NATO allowing 12,000 international troops to remain in the country past the end of this year.

U.S. President Barack Obama has approved an expanded combat mission authorizing American troops to engage Taliban fighters, not just al-Qaida terrorists. Obama's decision also means the U.S. can provide air support when needed.

The decision to expand the military's authority does not affect the overall number of U.S. troops who will remain in Afghanistan. Earlier this year, Obama ordered the American force be reduced to 9,800 by the end of this year, a figure expected to be cut in half by the end of 2015.

The troops were supposed to remain in a training and support capacity after ceding the leading role in the anti-insurgent war to Afghan security forces in the middle of last year.

an active fault, experts of the Japan Meteorological Agency reported.

It reported nearly 80 aftershocks by midday Monday.



This aerial photo shows buildings collapsed after a strong earthquake hit Hakuba, Nagano prefecture, central Japan, Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014.



Philippine court convicts 9 Chinese of poaching

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine court convicted nine Chinese fishermen Monday of poaching and taking hundreds of endangered giant sea turtles from a disputed shoal in the South China Sea, fining each of them nearly \$103,000 but imposing no jail term.

The fishermen were arrested in May at Half Moon Shoal and their boat and catch of 555 endangered sea turtles were seized. The arrests sparked another spat between the Asian neighbors in the increasingly volatile South China Sea.

Judge Ambrosio de Luna of the regional trial court in western Palawan province found them

guilty of violating the country's fisheries code, ordering them to pay a fine of \$100,000 each for poaching in Philippine waters plus 120,000 pesos (\$2,666) each for taking wildlife.

Attorney Hazel Alaska, the clerk of court, said de Luna could have imposed a jail term of up to 20 years for the taking of threatened or endangered species but decided to impose only a fine. In case the fishermen fail to pay the fine, they will have to serve a maximum of six months in jail.

Once the fines are settled, the fishermen will be released from the provincial jail, she said.

China has pressed the Philip-

pinos to release the fishermen and their boat, saying they were taken in Chinese waters. Beijing warned Manila not to take any "provocative actions so as to avoid further damage to bilateral relations."

The Philippines says the Chinese were arrested in its exclusive economic zone.

The shoal, called Banyue Reef in China, is claimed by Beijing as part of the Nansha island chain, known internationally as the Spratly Islands. The Spratlys are claimed in whole or part by China, the Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia, Vietnam and Brunei. China claims virtually the entire South China Sea.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Death toll rises to 3 from bombing in Philippines

KIDAPAWAN, Philippines (AP)—The death toll from a bomb blast in a billiard hall near a crowded town carnival in the southern Philippines has risen to three, officials said Monday. The death toll rose overnight after one of the wounded died in hospital, Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay, an army spokeswoman, said Monday. Another 22 people were wounded in the blast. Mayor Joselito Pinol said two men left the bomb, which was apparently concealed in a bag, at the billiard hall late Sunday in his town of Mlang in North Corabato province. The two men left hurriedly on a motorcycle before the blast happened. Pinol said bomb shrapnel and flying debris hit people in the billiard hall and in a nearby carnival. The blast damaged the billiard hall. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

British banker can plea in HK murder case: Judge

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong judge on Monday deemed a British banker charged with murdering two Indonesian women fit to enter a plea in his case based on the results of psychiatric reports. The judge in Rurik Jutting's case also adjourned pre-trial court proceedings until July 6 to give the prosecution more time to analyze DNA and other forensic evidence. Prosecutor Louise

Wong told the judge that the government lab needed 28 weeks to examine more than 200 items of evidence collected from the crime scene, but she added that investigators requested the case be given priority. Jutting's lawyers said he did not object to the request for the lengthy adjournment. No trial date has been set yet and Jutting did not enter a plea.

Strong quake in west China kills 5; 54 hurt

BEIJING (AP)—A strong earthquake that hit a sparsely populated, mountainous area of western China killed at least five people and injured 54 others, officials said Sunday. The injured included schoolchildren in a stampede. The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude-5.9 quake hit Saturday about 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the county of Kangding in Sichuan province. China's seismological agency put the magnitude at 6.3. One person was also missing as of Sunday afternoon, according to a statement from the Ganzi prefecture government, which oversees Kangding. The four dead included a woman in her 70s who was struck by a falling window pane, the official Xinhua News Agency and state broadcaster CCTV said, citing Chen Yunbing, a doctor at the region's Ganzi People's Hospital. A stampede at a primary school in Tagong town during the quake injured 42 children, according to Xinhua.

World

Islamic State group recruits, exploits children

BEIRUT (AP)—Teenagers carrying weapons stand at checkpoints and busy intersections in Iraq's second-largest city, Mosul. Patched onto the left arms of their black uniforms are the logos of the Islamic Police.

In Raqqa, the Islamic State group's de facto capital in Syria, boys attend training camp and religious courses before heading off to fight. Others serve as cooks or guards at the extremists' headquarters or as spies, informing on people in their neighborhoods.

Across the vast region under IS control, the group is actively conscripting children for battle and committing abuses against the most vulnerable at a young age, according to a growing body of evidence assembled from residents, activists, independent experts and human rights groups.

In the northern Syrian town of Kobani, where ethnic Kurds have been resisting an IS onslaught for weeks, several activists told The Associated Press they observed children fighting alongside the militants. Mustafa Bali, a Kobani-based activist, said he saw the bodies of four boys, two of them younger than 14. And at least one 18 year old is said to have carried out a sui-



In this Monday, June 23, 2014 file photo, an Islamic militant group fighter stands with two children posing with weapons as they watch other members of the group parade in commandeered Iraqi security forces vehicles down a main road at the northern city of Mosul, Iraq, more than two weeks after IS took over the country's second largest city.

cide attack.

In Syria's Aleppo province, an activist affiliated with the rebel Free Syrian Army said its fighters encountered children in their late teens "fairly often" in

battles against the rival Islamic State group.

It is difficult to determine just how widespread the exploitation of children is in the closed world of IS-controlled

territory. There are no reliable figures on the number of minors the group employs.

But a United Nations panel investigating war crimes in the Syrian conflict concluded that

in its enlistment of children for active combat roles, the Islamic State group is perpetrating abuses and war crimes on a massive scale "in a systematic and organized manner."

The group "prioritizes children as a vehicle for ensuring long-term loyalty, adherence to their ideology and a cadre of devoted fighters that will see violence as a way of life," it said in a recent report. The panel of experts, known as the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria, conducted more than 300 interviews with people who fled or are living in IS-controlled areas, and examined video and photographic evidence.

The use of children by armed

groups in conflict is, of course, nothing new. In the Syrian civil war, the Free Syrian Army and Nusra Front rebel groups also recruit children for combat, said Leila Zerrougui, the U.N. secretary-general's special representative for children and armed conflict.

But no other group comes close to IS in using children in such a systematic and organized way. And the effect is that much greater because IS commands large areas in which the militants inculcate the children with their radical and violent interpretation of Shariah law.

"What is new is that ISIS seems to be quite transparent and vocal about their intention and their practice of recruiting children," said Laurent Chapuis, UNICEF regional child protection adviser for the Middle East and North Africa, using an alternate acronym for the group. "Children as young as 10, 12 years old are being used in a variety of roles, as combatants as messengers, spies, guards, manning checkpoints but also for domestic purposes like cooking, cleaning, sometimes providing medical care to the wounded."

"This is not a marginal phenomenon. This is something that is being observed and seems to be part of the strategy of the group," Zerrougui said in a phone interview from New York.

Sydney mom charged with attempted murder of baby

SYDNEY (AP)—A 30-year-old Sydney mother has been charged with the attempted murder of her newborn son who was allegedly abandoned in a roadside drain for five days before passers-by heard his cries, police said Monday.

The week-old baby was in serious but stable condition in Sydney's Westmead Children's Hospital on Monday, a day after a group of cyclists found him in a 2.5-meter (8-foot) deep drain beside the M7 Motorway in the Sydney suburb of Quakers Hill, police said in a statement.

His mother Saifale Nai, of Quakers Hill, did not appear in the Blacktown Local Court on Monday to answer the attempted murder charge. She faces a potential maximum sentence of 25 years in prison if convicted.

Her lawyer did not apply for bail or enter a plea to the charge. The magistrate formally refused her bail.

Nai will remain in custody until she appears in the Penrith Local Court on Friday.

"Police will allege the baby, believed to have been born on Monday (Nov. 17), was placed into the drain on Tuesday," the police statement said.

Andrew Pesce, a gynecologist, obstetrician and former president of the Australian Medical Association, the na-



This photo released by New South Wales Police shows a newborn baby who was found Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014 abandoned in a drain in the Sydney suburb of Quakers Hill, Australia.

tion's leading doctors' group, said such an ordeal could leave a newborn baby with long-term problems such as brain damage.

"There would still have to be some concerns about the baby," Pesce said.

"I would have thought that it wouldn't have been able to survive for much longer if it didn't start getting fed," he added.

He said healthy newborns

have reserves to cope with relative malnutrition and often lose 10 percent of their birth weight because their mothers can take a few days before producing sufficient milk.

Helen Polley, a senator in the opposition Labor Party, said the near-tragedy could have been avoided if emergency hatches were rolled out at Australian hospitals, police and fire sta-

tions where babies could be safely abandoned.

Polley also called on Sunday for the repeal of laws that make child abandonment a criminal offense, which she said encourage the problem to be hidden.

The baby was found wrapped in a hospital blanket. Police used hospital records to find the mother on Sunday afternoon.

Quakers Hill Police Inspector David Lagats said on Sunday the boy had no signs of physical injury, but was malnourished and dehydrated, Lagats said.

Cyclists riding along a bicycle lane beside the motorway heard the baby on Sunday morning.

"We actually thought it was a kitten at first, but when we went down there we could hear exactly what it was—you could definitely tell it was a baby screaming," cyclist David Otte told The Daily Telegraph newspaper.

It took six men, including three police officers, to lift a 200-kilogram (440-pound) concrete lid that covered the drain, the newspaper said.

Police suspect the baby was squeezed through the drain's narrow opening and dropped to the bottom.

The baby would likely be taken into state care when he was discharged from the hospital, officials said.

Crew docks at International Space Station

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan (AP)—A Soyuz capsule carrying three astronauts from Russia, the United States and Italy docked Monday with the International Space Station, less than six hours after launching from Russia's manned space facility in Kazakhstan.

The Russian capsule roared into the pre-dawn darkness just after 3 a.m. Monday (2100 GMT Sunday) from the Baikonur Cosmodrome with Russian Anton Shkaplerov, NASA's Terry Virts and European Space Agency astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti of Italy aboard.

The craft docked with the space station after a trip lasting five hours and 48 minutes, which the NASA television commentator noted was roughly the time it takes to

drive from NASA headquarters in Houston, Texas, to New Orleans, Louisiana.

The three astronauts join three others already aboard the orbiting station, including Russian Elena Serova. Cristoforetti's arrival made it the second time in the station's 16-year history that two women have been aboard on long-term missions.

Shkaplerov, Virts and Cristoforetti will remain aboard the station until mid-May. The current crew of NASA's Barry Wilmore, Russian Alexander Samokutyaev and Serova will return to Earth in early March.

Since the retirement of the U.S. space shuttle fleet in 2011, Russian Soyuz spacecraft have served as the only means to ferry crew to and from the space outpost.

Overdrive

With new Mirai, Toyota brings the fuel cell future into focus

By SUSAN CARPENTER
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

As Toyota sees it, the future isn't some fuzzy, far-off point in the distance. It's here in the form of a midsize sedan I was able to drive this week, when the Japanese automaker made its bold bet on hydrogen.

It takes little more than a glance to understand the Mirai fuel cell vehicle is different. Whether it's the dramatic air intakes at both front corners that force oxygen to interact with the key ingredient that generates onboard electricity, or a tail pipe that slowly drips water, the Mirai reads as a sedan while simultaneously hinting at what's happening under the hood.

Upon opening the driver-side door and sliding into its leatherette seats, it's clear the Mirai is similarly futuristic inside. Starting at the premium price of \$57,500, or \$499 per month to lease, the interior fit and finish is a hybrid, so to speak, of the Prius and a more upscale Lexus. Its black interior feels modern with a swipe screen housed in shiny piano black and offset with bright blue buttons and silver trimming.

The Mirai can travel up to



The 2016 Toyota Mirai will start at \$57,500, or \$499 per month to lease.

300 miles on a full tank and refills in about five minutes.

Because the Mirai's two hydrogen fuel tanks are located under and behind the rear seats, the fuel door is located in the same place where it's normally found on a gas-powered car.

The tanks' location means the rear seat only accommodates two passengers, similar to the current-generation Chevrolet Volt. The two seats are bisected with a large cubby/armrest outfitted with cup holders and controls for the heated seats.

All four seats are heatable. They are also moderately bolstered and comfortable.

The Mirai weighs 4,050 pounds, but the weight of its fuel cell stack is centered and low, so it didn't handle like a sled. That said, I was aware of its weight in the form of a solid ride that felt planted and responsive enough in the corners.

The only sound was the whir of its electric motor. Even at highway speeds, the Mirai was quiet—a combination of it being an electric car whose fuel cell stack is under the front seats and it being housed in carbon fiber reinforced plastic, which helps damp road noise.

The Mirai can be driven in two modes. Eco numbs the accelerator feel; Power is more satisfying. It took little pedal effort to unbridle its full accelera-

tive potential, which Toyota estimates at 0 to 60 mph in about nine seconds.

Available in California starting next fall for lease as well as outright purchase, the Mirai can be had in a single trim and four colors—gray, black, white and blue. Only one other option will be offered: Power Takeoff is a plug that's housed in the trunk and can be used to turn the car into a backup power generator during electricity blackouts.

That trunk is another area the interior has been compromised due to its unique hydrogen power train. The two fuel tanks, which sit under and behind the rear seats, impinge a bit on its space but nowhere near as severely as a CNG car.

Given that the Mirai is carrying twin tanks of potentially explosive hydrogen, Toyota has

NUTS & BOLTS

2016 Toyota Mirai Fuel Cell Vehicle

- Base price: \$57,500*
- Powertrain: Hydrogen fuel cell coupled with hybrid synergy drive
- Horsepower: 153
- Torque: 247 lb.-ft.
- Curb weight: 4,050 pounds
- Range: Up to 300 miles
- Refuel time: About 5 minutes
- Availability: California, fall 2015

*Before applying \$8,000 federal tax credit and \$5,000 California Clean Vehicle Program rebate

built in multiple safety features as standard equipment, including adaptive cruise control to maintain a safe following distance and a lane-keeping assistant that notifies the driver when he's about to veer off path.

Coming in a bit hot to a red light behind an SUV, I learned about another safety feature when the Mirai engaged its collision mitigation braking system on my behalf, tensioning the seat belts and preloading the brakes with maximum force to avoid impact. Under normal braking conditions, being an electric car, the Mirai is outfitted with regenerative brakes to help recapture the kinetic energy from slowing and feed it back to the powertrain to enhance range.

With its Mirai, Toyota has built a production hydrogen vehicle that walks the tight rope between mainstream acceptance and a brave new world in a car that balances the familiar with the new.

Welcome to the future.

Which transmission fluid to choose?

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I recently purchased a 2008 Chevy Equinox with 81,000 miles. It has the non-GM Aisin AF33 five-speed transmission. The owner's manual states to use only T-IV automatic transmission fluid. I pointed this out to the shop when I had the transmission fluid changed. However, they used a machine to flush out the used T-IV fluid and replaced it with Dexron VI fluid. They told me that using Dexron VI is not a problem but I read on several Internet blogs and forums that using Dexron VI can damage this transmission. I asked two Chevy dealers, an inde-

pendent garage and another transmission shop and I'm getting conflicting information. I would appreciate it if you could get to the bottom of this.

A: Hey, if it's on the Internet it must be true, right? The T-IV automatic transmission fluid meets industry specification JWS3309. Here are several automatic transmission fluids that are listed as suitable for T-IV applications: Valvoline MaxLife Dex/Merc ATF, Mobil 1 Synthetic ATF, Castrol Trans-Max Synthetic ATF, Quaker State Ultimate Synthetic Multi-vehicle ATF, Pennzoil Multi-Vehicle Automatic Transmission Fluid—to name just a few. Mobil ATF 3309 is a JWS3309-spec transmission

fluid engineered for this application.

Like you, I found conflicting information on Dexron VI compatibility with JWS3309-spec Type T-IV fluid. Part of the issue is Dexron VI's "backward compatibility," meaning it is suitable for transmissions using previous Dexron ATFs. Aisin specifically recommends against using Dexron III in the T-IV transmission.

Remember this: Transmission manufacturers do not manufacture or produce their own lubricants. Oil companies do. I believe we can trust the product information on specific lubricants and their compatibility with specific vehicle components. So as long as the fluid used to refill your transmission meets the JWS3309 specification—no worries.

First Year Death Anniversary

In Loving Memory of our Beloved

†Damiana Olkeril Kaipat

We, the family would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the anniversary of our beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily Mass is being offered at 6:00AM at Kristo Rai Church and 6:00PM at St. Jude Church Monday – Friday, 7:00AM on Saturday and 10:00AM on Sunday.

Nightly rosary is being said at 7:30PM at her residence in Bonita Street, Dandan.

On the final day, December 01, 2014, Mass will be celebrated at the San Vicente Church at 6:00PM.

Your thoughts and presence are greatly appreciated.

DIEGO L. KAIPAT, Children and Family



Life & Style

AP Exclusive: Letter that inspired Kerouac found

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's been called the letter that launched a literary genre—16,000 amphetamine-fueled, stream-of-consciousness words written by Neal Cassady to his friend Jack Kerouac in 1950.

Upon reading them, Kerouac scrapped an early draft of "On The Road" and, during a three-week writing binge, revised his novel into a style similar to Cassady's, one that would become known as Beat literature.

The letter, Kerouac said shortly before his death, would have transformed his counter-culture muse Cassady into a towering literary figure, if only it hadn't been lost.

Turns out it wasn't, says Joe Maddalena, whose Southern California auction house Profiles in History is putting the letter up for sale Dec. 17. It was just misplaced, for 60-some years.

It's being offered as part of a collection that includes papers by E.E. Cummings, Kenneth Rexroth, Robert Penn Warren and other prominent literary figures. But Maddalena believes the item bidders will want most is Cassady's 18-page, single-spaced screed describing a drunken, sexually charged, sometimes comical visit to his hometown of Denver.

"It's the seminal piece of literature of the Beat Generation, and there are so many rumors and speculation of what happened to it," Maddalena said.

Kerouac told The Paris Review in 1968 that poet Allen Ginsberg loaned the letter to a friend who lived on a houseboat in Northern California. Kerouac believed the friend then dropped it overboard.

"It was my property, a letter to me, so Allen shouldn't have been so careless with it, nor the guy on the houseboat," he said.

As for the quality of the letter, Kerouac described it this way: "It was the greatest piece of writing I ever saw, better'n anybody in America, or at least enough to make Melville, Twain, Dreiser, Wolfe, I dunno who, spin in their graves."

It turns out Ginsberg apparently was trying to get it published when he mailed the letter to Golden Goose Press in San Francisco. There it remained, unopened, until the small publishing house folded.

When it did, its owner planned to throw the letter in the trash, along with every other unopened submission he still had in his files.

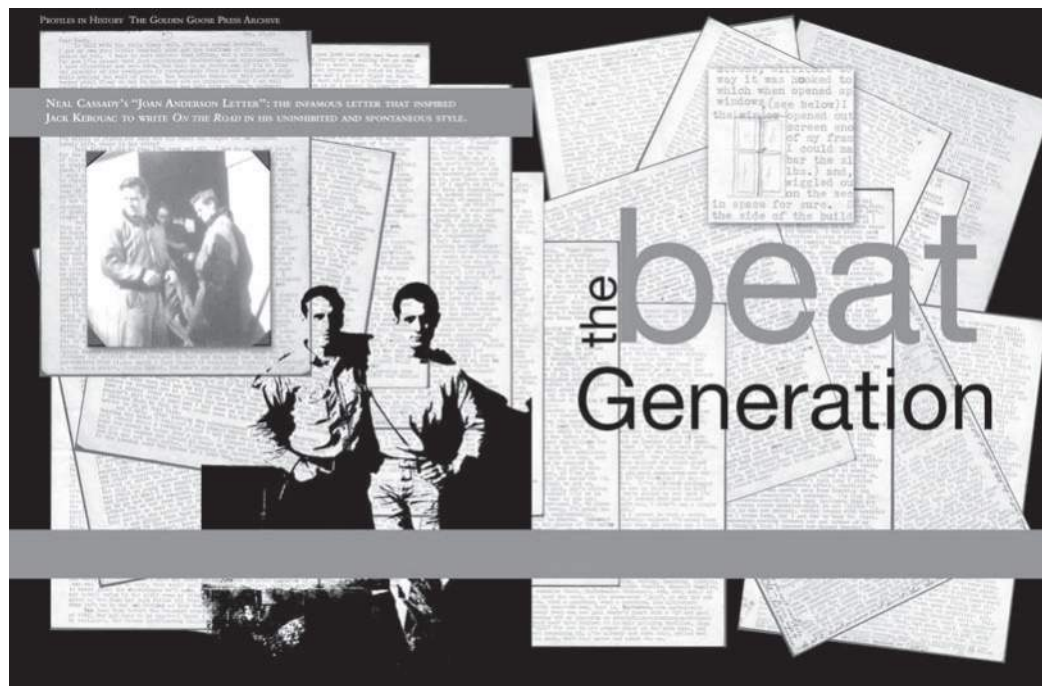
That was when the operator of a small, independent music label who shared an office with publisher Richard Emerson came to the rescue. He took every manuscript, letter and

receipt in the Golden Goose Archives home with him.

"My father didn't know who Allen Ginsberg was, he didn't know Cassady, he wasn't part of the Beat scene, but he loved poetry," said Los Angeles performance artist Jean Spinosa, who found the letter as she was cleaning out her late father's house two years ago. "He didn't understand how anyone would want to throw someone's words out."

Although she knew who Kerouac and Cassady were, Spinosa had never heard of "The Joan Anderson Letter," the name Kerouac gave it for Cassady's description of a woman he'd had a brief romance with.

"It's invaluable," historian and Kerouac biographer Dennis McNally said. "It inspired Kerouac greatly in the direction he wanted to travel, which was this spontaneous style of writing contained in a letter



that had just boiled out of Neal Cassady's brain."

It was a style he'd put to use in the novels "On The Road" and "Visions of Cody," which

featured Cassady, thinly disguised under the names Dean Moriarty and Cody Pomeroy, as their protagonists. He'd continue to use it in such books

as "The Subterraneans," "The Dharma Bums" and "Lonesome Traveler," cementing his reputation as the father of the Beat Generation.

This image provided by the Profiles in History auction house shows the cover of an auction catalog, featuring several pages of what has become known as "The Joan Anderson Letter," some 16,000 Benzedrine-fueled, stream-of-consciousness words written by Neal Cassady to his friend Jack Kerouac in 1950.

Cassady would gain some small measure of fame as Kerouac's muse and, later, as the sidekick who drove novelist Ken Kesey's Merry Pranksters bus across the country.

Meanwhile, about a third of "The Joan Anderson Letter," copied by someone before it disappeared, became well-known to students of Kerouac.

When Spinosa discovered she had the whole thing, she took it to Maddalena, a prominent dealer in historical documents and pop-culture artifacts, to authenticate it.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Jesus Sablan Santos

Lovingly known as "Chumbai"/"Jesus Maka"

Born to life on May 23, 1940 and was called his eternal rest at the age of 74 on November 17, 2014 in Guam.

In His New Life He Now Joins His:

Parents: †Juan Quichocho & †Maria Delos Reyes Sablan Delos Santos
Paternal Grandparents: †Vicente Castro & †Joaquina Quidachay Quichocho Delos Santos
Maternal Grandparents: †Vicente DLG. & †Antonia Cruz Delos Reyes Sablan
Parents In-Law: †Prung & †Tuem Tom-Iam

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:

†Remedio Santos & †Thomas C. Dela Cruz
†Joaquina Santos & †Daniel T. Borja
†Antonia Santos & †Joaquin P. Tenorio †Ignacio Cruz
†Jose Sablan Santos & †Barbara Muñoz
†Ines Santos & †Tito M. Muña
†Vicente S. Santos
†Vicente S. Santos
†David Scherer

His Loving Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of His:

Wife: Thongpan (Linda) T. Santos
Children: Jesse John T. & Elfreda Rose C. Santos (Alexandria Abigail, Chelsea Jessel, Jesse John), Benny T. Santos & Marline S. Duenas (Kei'Kani Zephaniah), Tony T. Santos & Felisidad Odoshi
Sisters: Lourdes Santos Waki and Children
Justina Santos Scherer and Children

Children and Families of His Late Brothers and Sisters

He will also be missed dearly by numerous cousins, nephews, nieces, godchildren, and friends.

Daily Masses is being offered at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00AM.
On Wednesday, November 26, 2014. His remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 8:30AM for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM. Interment Service will follow at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase , Ginen I Familia

1D, Katy Perry win big at American Music Awards

By MESFIN FEKADU
AP MUSIC WRITER

American girls love British boys: One Direction won artist of the year at the American Music Awards, taking home three honors and was the night's big winner next to Katy Perry, who didn't attend the show.

One Direction also won favorite band, duo or group—pop/rock and favorite album—pop/rock for "Midnight Memories" at the fan-voted show on Sunday night.

"This has been a real perfect day ... America feels like a second home to us," Liam Payne said onstage with his band mates when they won the night's first award. The group released its new album, "Four," last week.

Perry won three honors as well, including single of the year for No. 1 hit "Dark Horse," favorite female artist—pop/rock and favorite artist—adult contemporary.

Though she was absent—she's on tour in Australia—the 2014 AMAs was still jam-packed with star power at the Nokia Theatre L.A. Live. Breakthrough Australian newcomer Iggy Azalea, who was the top nominee with six, won favorite album—rap/hip-hop for "The New Classic" and favorite artist—rap/hip-hop, taking down rap heavyweights Eminem and Drake.

"This award is the first award I've ever won in my entire life, and it means so much to me that it is for best hip-hop because that's what inspired me to move to America and pursue my dreams, and it's what helped me when I was a teenager to escape and to get through my life and to better times," the 24-year-old rapper said, as her mentor T.I. stood beside her.

"And it means so much that I can stand here against Eminem and Drake and come out with this," she continued.

Azalea performed her massive hit, "Fancy," which was nominated for single of the year, as well as her new song, "Beg for It."

Australian boy band 5 Seconds of Summer won new artist of the year, and they also performed a cover of The Romanics' "What I Like About You."

Taylor Swift kicked off the AMAs as a mad woman and man eater by feeding a boy a poisonous apple, holding burning roses and giving crazy eyes during a performance of her song about her dating life.

She was aggressive, grabbing her male dancers by their blazers and singing in character on bended knee when performing her new No. 1 hit, "Blank Space." She even removed part of her dress to reveal a shimmering, leg-revealing gold number.

She later received the first-ever Dick Clark Award for Excellence, presented by Diana Ross.



AP
Taylor Swift performs on stage at the 42nd annual American Music Awards at Nokia Theatre L.A. Live on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014, in Los Angeles.

slowed it down for the emotional "Heart Wants What It Wants."

Beyonce, who didn't attend, won favorite female artist—soul/R&B and favorite album—soul/R&B for her self-titled effort.

Luke Bryan took home favorite male artist—country.

"I wanna thank God above for letting me tour night in and night out on the road. I want to thank the fans for making it possible to stand up here and win the awards," he said, also thanking "my band, my crew, bus driver, momma and them, you know."

Carrie Underwood was named favorite female artist—country and the soundtrack for "Frozen," the year's top-selling album, won top soundtrack.

'Mockingjay, Part 1' opens with \$123 million

NEW YORK (AP)—"Mockingjay, Part 1" didn't catch fire like the previous installments of "The Hunger Games," but it still had the biggest opening of the year with \$123 million at the weekend box office, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Lionsgate's "Mockingjay" opened well below the \$158 million debut of last year's "Hunger Games: Catching Fire" and the \$153 million opening of the 2012 original. But even with a \$30-million-plus slide in the franchise, "Mockingjay" far surpassed the previous top weekend of the year: the \$100 million debut of "Transformers: Age of Extinction."

The result made for some unusual ironies. The biggest

opening of the year (and by a wide margin) was seen by some as a disappointment. After initial box office receipts of "Mockingjay" rolled in Friday suggested a weekend take below expectations, Lions Gate Entertainment's stock dipped 5 percent.

But the decision to split the final book in Suzanne Collins' dystopian trilogy into two films was clearly lucrative for Lionsgate. "Mockingjay" did even better overseas, where it made \$152 million over the weekend, accounting altogether for a \$275 million global opening.

"It's the biggest opening of the year, so it really illustrates the strength of the franchise," said David Spitz, head of distribution for Lionsgate, noting the North American opening

was the 15th best ever.

Spitz declined to answer questions about Wall Street's reaction to the opening, or what the effect may have been of splitting the third book in two.

"It speaks for itself," Spitz said of the result.

Dividing the book pushed much of the big drama of "Mockingjay" to the second film, scheduled for release in November 2015. On the same November weekend in 2010, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1"—which similarly split the series' last book into two—opened almost identically with \$125 million. A year later, the second "Deathly Hallows" film debuted bigger than all previous "Harry Potter" films with \$169 million.

"A little perspective is in

order here," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office tracker Rentrak. He called the "Mockingjay" results "still an astonishing feat."

"I'm not worried about this franchise," Dergarabedian said.

The release calendar made way for "Mockingjay," as no other new wide releases hit theaters. In its third week of release, the Disney animated adventure "Big Hero 6" moved into second place with \$20.1 million. Christopher Nolan's space epic "Interstellar" came in third with \$15.1 million, also in its third week.

Last week's top film, the long-incoming sequel "Dumb and Dumber To," slid considerably. The Universal comedy dropped to fourth place with \$13.8 million.



AP
In this image released by Lionsgate, Jennifer Lawrence portrays Katniss Everdeen in a scene from "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1."

1. "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1," \$123 million (\$152 million international).
2. "Big Hero 6," \$20.1 million (\$7 million international).
3. "Interstellar," \$15.1 million (\$70 million international).
4. "Dumb and Dumber To," \$13.8 million (\$6.5 million international).
5. "Gone Girl," \$2.8 million (\$2.4 million international).
6. "Beyond the Lights," \$2.6 million.
7. "St. Vincent," \$2.4 million.
8. "Fury," \$1.9 million (\$12.4 million international).
9. "Birdman," \$1.9 million.
10. "The Theory of Everything," \$1.5 million.

Katy Perry to perform at Super Bowl halftime show

NEW YORK (AP)—Will Katy Perry be a firework at the Super Bowl? Will she show them what she's worth? Will she let her colors burst?

NFL announced late Sunday—after rumors swirled for weeks—that the pop star will headline the Pepsi Super Bowl halftime show on Feb. 1 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Arizona. It will air on NBC.

Perry, 30, has dominated the Billboard charts since releasing her debut in 2008, including nine No. 1 hits on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Her sophomore effort, 2010's multiplatinum "Teenage Dream," matched the record Michael Jackson set with "Bad" for most songs from a single album to hit No. 1 with five.

Perry released "Prism," another platinum effort, last year. It includes the No. 1 smashes "Roar" and "Dark Horse."

The Grammy-nominated star's upcoming performance is the fourth consecutive halftime show to display the NFL's push to include younger acts on its large stage: Bruno Mars had a show-stopping set at this year's Super Bowl at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey; Beyoncé electrified in 2013 in New Orleans; and there was Madonna, with Nicki Minaj and M.I.A., and the Black Eyed Peas in 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Other halftime performers in the last decade have included the Rolling Stones, Prince, Tom Petty, Bruce Springsteen and the Who.

The girl-power singer will also be performing at the culmination of a season where critics have assailed the NFL for its response to domestic violence cases involving women; its initial handling of former Baltimore Ravens star Ray Rice's assault on his then-fiance with just a



In this Sept. 16, 2014 file photo, Katy Perry performs on stage at "The Prismatic World Tour" at the Honda Center in Anaheim, Calif. AP

two-game suspension caused a national outrage, and led the league to toughen its penalties for such crimes. It later suspended Rice indefinitely.

Perry is currently on her Prismatic World Tour. Her other hits include "I Kissed a Girl," "California Gurls," "Firework" and "Wide Awake."

Obama to award Presidential Medal of Freedom

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is presenting America's highest civilian honor to 19 artists, activists, public servants and others.

The distinguished group receiving a Presidential Medal of Freedom includes actress Meryl Streep, Ethel Kennedy, widow of the late Sen. Robert Kennedy, singer-songwriter Stevie Wonder and Rep. John Dingell, a Democrat and the longest-serving member of Congress. Dingell is retiring at the end of the year.

Others being recognized at a White

House ceremony Monday are music theater composer Stephen Sondheim, NBC journalist Tom Brokaw and author Isabel Allende.

The list also includes Native American activist Suzan Harjo, actress Marlo Thomas, economist Robert Solow, golfer Charles Sifford, former Rep. Abner Mikva of Illinois and physicist Mildred Dresselhaus.

Posthumous medals will go to six individuals, among them civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Good-

man and Michael Schwerner, who were slain in 1964 as they participated in a historic voter registration drive among African-Americans in Mississippi.

Other posthumous awards will go to choreographer Alvin Ailey and Reps. Patsy Mink of Hawaii and Edward Roybal of California, founders of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is reserved for individuals who have made "meritorious contributions" to U.S. security, world peace or cultural endeavors.

'Mad Men' creator to receive honorary Int'l Emmy

NEW YORK (AP)—"Mad Men" stars Christina Hendricks and John Slattery will be presenting a special award at the International Emmys Gala to the show's creator and executive producer Matthew Weiner who's preparing the final episodes of the 1960s Madison Avenue ad agency saga slated to air in spring 2015.

Weiner will be receiving the honorary International Emmy Founders Award at Monday night's ceremony at the Hilton New York.

"Mad Men" has really come to define television for a whole generation of viewers," said Bruce L. Paisner, president and CEO of the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. "It's an amazing global cultural phenomenon ... a force of nature as much as just a television series."

"Although these are stories in theory out of the '60s, part of the success of the show is that it's a touchstone for how we think about ourselves and our own relationships even today."

The presentation to Weiner will be the centerpiece of the awards ceremony, hosted by British comedian Matt Lucas, creator of the comedy series "Little Britain," a two-time International Emmy winner.

A total of 40 nominees from 19 countries will be competing in 10 categories for International Emmys, established to honor excellence in TV programming outside the U.S.

Britain had a leading six nominations, including best actor and actress nods for Stephen Dillane and Olivia Colman for their roles in popular crime dramas.

Brazil had five nominations, including nods for three Globo TV productions: "The Mayor's Wife" (comedy), "Precious Pearl" (telenovela) and "Alexander and Other Heroes" (TV movie/miniseries).

Argentina, Canada and Japan each had three nominations.

Dillane, who portrays Stannis Barathe-

on in "Game of Thrones," was recognized for his role as an aging British police detective in the British/French crime drama "The Tunnel," which as an entry from France was among the nominees for best drama series.

Colman was nominated for her role in "Broadchurch" as a detective investigating the murder of an 11-year-old boy in a coastal Dorset town.

Other British nominees include: the crime-thriller "Utopia" (drama series), "An Adventure in Space and Time" (TV movie/miniseries) about the creation and early years of the "Dr. Who" sci-fi series, "No Fire Zone: The Killing Fields of Sri Lanka" (documentary) and "Educating Yorkshire" (non-scripted entertainment).



In this June 20, 2011, file photo, Matthew Weiner, creator of "Mad Men," accepts the award for best drama series at the inaugural Critics' Choice Television Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

The Argentine drama "Televisión por la Justicia," about cases inspired by real-life people harmed by bad judicial rulings, had two nominations in the acting categories—for Pablo Rago and Romina Gaetani.

The other actor nominees were Canada's Claude Legault for "19-2" and China's Xiubo Wu for "The Orphan of Zhao." Rounding out the actress nominees were Turkey's Tuba Buyukustun for "20 Dakika" ("20 Minutes") and the Netherlands' Bianca Krijgsman for "De Nieuwe Wereld" ("The New World").

A new category was introduced this year to recognize non-English language U.S. prime-time programs.

Little thefts from garden add up to big annoyance

DEAR ABBY: I live in a 55-and-older mobile home park. Because my coach isn't huge, I have a nice little backyard where I have a small vegetable garden and a lovely lemon tree.

One day while I was tending my garden, the woman who lives behind me came over to say hello and admire my vegetables. When she saw I have Swiss chard growing, she exclaimed, "Oh, I will have to pick some because my daughter loves it!"

I was dumbfounded. She has room to plant her own little garden, but never does. She has helped herself to lemons, too. When I saw her doing it, I was again too shocked to say anything. She doesn't ask; she just helps herself.

What do I say at times like these? We live so close and there are no fences ... yet.

FUMING IN VISTA, CALIF.

DEAR FUMING: Unless you are willing to draw the line, your neighbor will continue to assume that silence is consent. So pay the woman a visit, and tell her you would prefer that she ASK permission before helping herself to anything in your garden. And if that doesn't stop her, make installing that fence a priority.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Nowadays, I'm learning about the deaths of family members and friends by email, and I'm uncertain how to

respond. I always send thoughtful, personal handwritten notes of condolence. But how best to acknowledge or respond to the email?

It seems wrong to ignore it in favor of sending a letter via the Postal Service, because my message will take a while to reach the bereaved. But it also seems wrong to say, "Oh, so sad to hear the news" in an email, as if that was the sum total of my thoughts. What to do?

CARING OUT WEST

DEAR CARING: Here's what I do. I pick up the phone and CALL the person who sent the email, or a member of the family that suffered the loss. I express my sympathy and find out the details -- such as where and when the funeral or memorial will be held, and if I can send flowers or make a donation. THEN I write the condolence note.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: When I come home from work, errands or whatever, my wife is often on the phone. I find it rude that she won't put the phone down for a moment to say hello and, if the call needs to be returned, tell me briefly what it's about. Is that unreasonable?

My wife walks into another room with no explanation, never straying from the call, and continues talking for another 10 or 20 minutes. What do you think of this?

CRAVING ATTENTION IN COLORADO

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR CRAVING: I agree that it would be more loving if she acknowledged your presence with a smile and a "Hi, Honey -- I'll be off the phone in a few minutes." However, for you to expect her to report who she's talking to and what they have been discussing seems not only nosy on your part, but could be considered controlling.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

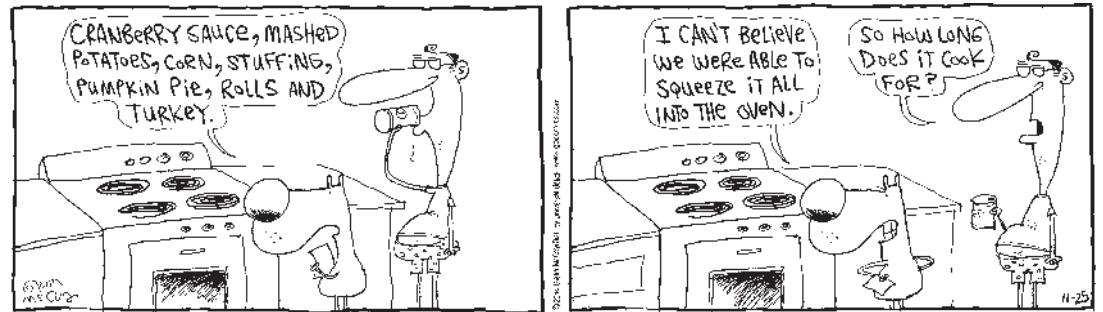


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

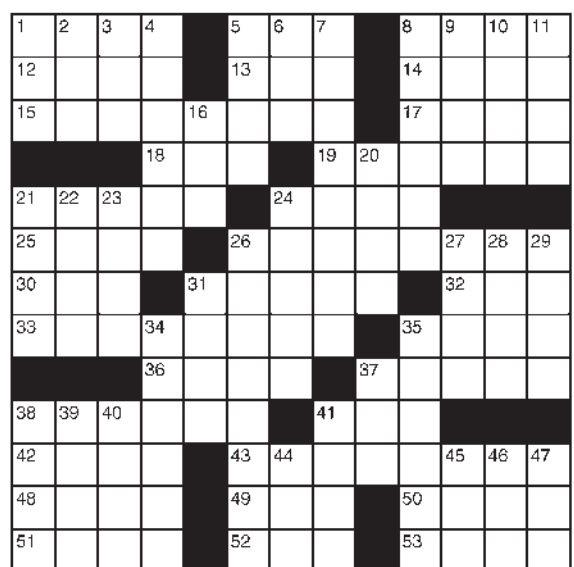
By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Eastern potentate
 - 5 Trot
 - 8 "Duke"
 - 12 Unaccompanied
 - 13 —
 - 14 Jima
 - 15 Singer
 - 16 Lower jaw
 - 17 Author
 - 18 Didion
 - 19 Adversary
 - 21 Cheap
 - 21 Who says?
 - 24 Laugh-a-minute type
 - 25 Wheedle
 - 26 Variety of orange
 - 30 Plant
 - 31 Forbidding
 - 32 Rhyming tribute
 - 33 Pear-shaped instrument
 - 35 Cobbler's item
- DOWN**
- 36 "The 40 Year-Old Virgin"
 - 37 Actor
 - 38 Paul
 - 39 Chose
 - 40 Road
 - 41 Runner's pursuer
 - 42 Commotion
 - 43 Freshly
 - 44 Comic-strip magician
 - 45 Solidifies
 - 46 Braggart's problem
 - 47 Look-alike
 - 48 Catch sight of
 - 49 Director
 - 50 Howard
 - 51 Transmit
 - 22 "The Music Man"
 - 23 Extinct bird
 - 24 "Death in Venice" writer
 - 25 Hydrophobic
 - 26 Seasickness
 - 27 Source
 - 28 Not working
 - 29 Requirement
 - 30 Track
 - 31 Tipster
 - 32 Starting to nod off
 - 33 Much
 - 34 weekend
 - 35 TV fare
 - 36 Peculiar
 - 37 Zoo
 - 38 structure
 - 39 Individuals
 - 40 Business-review website
 - 41 Any time now
 - 42 Past
 - 43 Overwhelm
 - 44 Family
 - 45 Conclusion
- Solution time: 22 mins.**
- Yesterday's answer 11-25**



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katie Cassidy, 28; Jerry Ferrara, 35; Christina Applegate, 43; Bruno Tonioli, 59.

Happy Birthday: A state of calm can be achieved this year if you tie up loose ends. Examine the past in order to see the present clearly. By doing so, you will gain insight and perspective that will help you move forward with confidence. Don't let someone else's uncertainty turn into a problem. Follow your gut and do your own thing. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 26, 33, 40, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put yourself first. Strive to be your best mentally, physically and emotionally. Refrain from getting into a petty argument that will waste your time. Do something constructive. A new hobby will occupy your mind and help you avoid discord. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll attract attention for your performance, but overdoing it can end up causing you relationship problems. Gauge your time wisely so you don't disappoint someone who is counting on you. Moderation and attentiveness will bring good results. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Protect against rumors or being misinterpreted. A detailed, honest assessment regarding the way you feel about a situation will play prominently into the results you get when dealing with others. Make love, not war. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Concentrate on important relationships. Making an impulsive change or decision will disrupt your status and can cause an emotional

situation to escalate into an unruly turn of events. Nurture what you have using kindness, consideration and tenderness. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Share your ideas with peers. Mixing business with pleasure will be conducive to persuading others to see things your way. Don't be afraid to make an attractive offer to someone you think is special or has something to contribute. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't believe everything you are told. You are best to go directly to the source and pose direct questions. Don't let a change of heart turn into a costly situation. Put greater emphasis on the people, places and things you enjoy the most. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Personal issues will mount. Distance yourself from what's going on at home or in your personal life. You need time to think without someone manipulating you emotionally. Volunteering to help a worthy cause will take your mind off of your troubles. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't settle for less than what you want. Take the initiative to do your own fact-finding and you will have nothing to complain about when you finish. Make decisions based on how you feel, not on what others want. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Consider your future and what you can do to reach your goals. A career change that will stabilize your financial situation should be your aim. Being practical will pay off down

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

the road, so be reluctant to take a path that doesn't offer greater security. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have everything in place and ready to go, so don't let someone else disrupt your plans. Uncertainty regarding money will come into play if you lend, borrow, donate or get into a joint money venture. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Embrace change that will encourage a new beginning, a better job or a chance to take on a partnership that looks promising. Gather all the facts you can so that you can proceed with confidence. Stay in the loop. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Communication will lead to uncertainty if you cannot tell the difference between fact and fiction. What someone tells you may be valid to a point, but the body language behind what's said will paint a truer picture. Protect your heart. *****

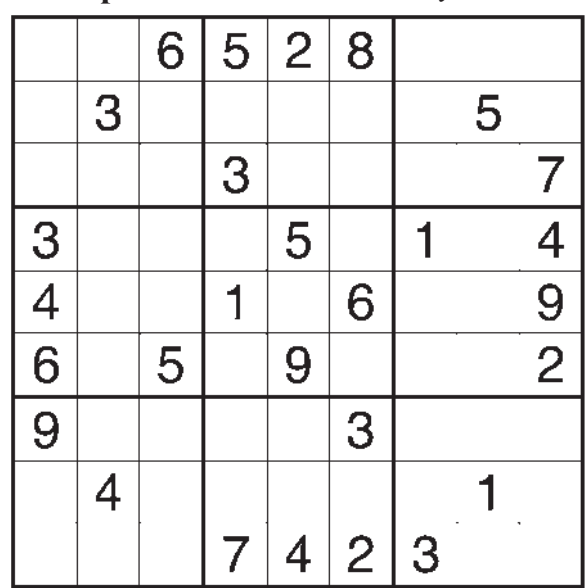
Birthday Baby: You are practical, persuasive and compassionate. You are spirited and courageous.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



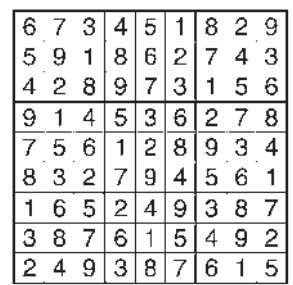
Difficulty Level ★★

11/25

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★

11/24

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BIKE RIDING

Solution: 10 letters



©2014 Universal Jclick. www.wonderword.com. Join us on Facebook.

Accessories, Balance, Basket, Bell, Bike, Cage, Chain, Colors, Comfort, Cyclist, Fender, Fitness, Frame, Gears, Grip, Helmet, Hills, Hybrid, Kickstand, Legs, Lock, Low Riders, Parts, Pedals, Race, Racing, Rear, Rickshaw, Riding, Safe, Seat, Shape, Shop, Sidewalk, Speed, Spokes, Stationary, Steer, Suspension, Tandems, Time, Tour, Trails, Transportation

Yesterday's Answer: Contest

Purchase WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2 in time for the holidays! Order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

R.E.A.L. International Cop. Is looking for 10-Masons, 10-Carpenters, 1-Welder, 1-Electrician, 2-Painters & 1-Plumber. Email resume to remypamintuan@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

Hi Ladies! American gent wants to meet a nice lady to share good times. To meet for coffee call 235-5544.

LOOKING FOR RENT

Looking for House, Apt, and Motel near Garapan area for long term lease. Call Zheng at 287-7676




Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 648-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mavfiguam@te.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

Subscribe to the CNMI's
First Daily Newspaper.
Call 235-NEWS

APARTMENTS FOR RENT



Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**

***Wi-Fi and nighttime security excludud**

FEATURES:

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WiFi
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8.

Job Vacancy Announcement

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(01) HEMODIALYSIS TECHNICIAN

- Certificate from Junior College/Technician School in healthcare
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program
- Three year hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan.
Deadline to submit an application will be on 12/01/2014 at 4:00pm.
For more information, please call Maggie Torres at (670) 234-2905 ext. 128.

Description: Loan/Investment Officer

Job Purpose: To redevelop and manage a loan and investment program that focuses on bridge financing and real estate investments.

Loan/Investment Officer Job Duties:

- Accepts and review loan applications by evaluating applicant information and documentation.
- Drafts Letter of Intents for potential loans.
- Evaluates credit worthiness.
- Improves loan applications by informing applicant of additional requirements.
- Rejects loans by explaining deficiencies to applicants.
- Approves loans or forwards applications to loan committee.
- Develops Critical Paths or Action Plans for complex transactions.
- Negotiates commission agreements with brokers.
- Updates marketing programs to include websites, Scotsman Guide, etc.
- Develops policies and procedures and train new loan officers.
- Accounts for and updates loan and investment portfolio and provides monthly reports on profitability and Return on Investment.
- Initiate foreclosure process for delinquent loans.
- Completes loan contracts by explaining provisions to applicant; obtaining signatures and notarizations; collecting fees.
- Helps customers by answering questions; responding to requests.
- Maintains customer confidence by keeping loan information confidential.
- Updates job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities; reading professional publications; maintaining personal networks; participating in professional organizations.
- Support the Investments Team in all underwriting, due diligence and closing efforts for acquisition and disposition transactions.
- Interact with several internal departments and external parties for assigned transactions
- Maintain group materials relating to market specific information such as target properties, prominent owners and comparable transactions
- Analyze and interpret operating statements and obtain market data from various sources
- Assist in the preparation of investment memos
- Oversee due diligence process including cash flow variance analyses, coordinating site inspections and lease abstracting, review of third party reports, document sharing/tracking as well as the estoppel process
- Serve as the primary due diligence point of contact for buyer and investment sales team including initial document transmittal and all information requests
- Coordinate the estoppel process
- Assist in the closing and post-closing processes

Skills/Qualifications: Audit, Financial Skills, Financial Software, Customer Service, Thoroughness, Confidentiality, Analyzing Information , Decision Making, Verbal Communication, Professionalism, Quality Focus

Submit your resume to Bridge Capital, LLC, PMB 29 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950 or email at reneacia.sannicolas@bccnmi.com

Job Vacancy Announcement

(01) Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician (Part-Time)

- At least five years’ experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology
- Must be over five years’ experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI
- Flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up applications at Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit applications will be on 12/12/2014 at 4:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Maggie Torres at (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

General Manager, Electronic Gaming (1)

Position Summary: Plan, direct and co-ordinate the operations of a business, division, department or operating unit of Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. Plan and maintain systems and procedures for operating efficiency. Manage staff for optimum performance. Ensure compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws and adherence to and maintenance of policy of confidentiality within the gaming operation; and to produce maximum revenue levels.

Position Requirement: High School graduate, GED or equivalent and a certificate in gaming operations or management plus 15 years of successful work experience in one or more gaming operations, 7 years of which must be as a gaming manager; must have current management experience in an electronic gaming operations running slot machines and electronic gaming machines; ability to communicate effectively with guests, team members and management in both written and verbal form and the ability to handle multiple tasks; demonstrated experience and ability to manage all games and must be computer literate. Knowledge and experience in strategic planning; marketing, brand reinforcement; networking, stakeholder communication; financial management, forecasting, budgeting; team building and development; staff management, mentoring and motivation; organizational, coordination and time management; complete all documentation accurately in accordance with standards and applicable local and federal laws. Ability to work any shift or hours; must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends; highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent and leadership skills. Ability to work any shift or hours.

Interested applicants may submit their resume by email to: hr@clubcsaipan.com.

Background check maybe required before employment.
Deadline for submission of resume is on Friday, December 5, 2014.

Loan Underwriter/Due Diligence Officer

Our fast-growing international finance and investment company, based in the CNMI, is looking for a Loan Underwriter/Due Diligence Officer to head our loan department. The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Identifies required documents for due diligence.
- Procures the services of appraisers, attorneys, title and management companies, insurance companies, etc. to assist with due diligence.
- Verifies client's employment along with income information, provide reviews on credit history, and compute the borrower's assets.
- Verify and value collateral.
- Calculate financial ratios to include LTV, Debt to Equity, Debt to Income, etc.
- Assess and verify loan payoff strategies.
- Verify ability to make monthly interest payments.
- Perform financial and risk assessment. Ensure that the specifications of properties and terms of loans meet the requirements of the financial institution and with the government regulations.
- Once loan applications have been thoroughly evaluated and assessments have been made to determine the degree of risk, underwriter will then document the relevant reasons for the approval or disapproval of loans and add the following documentation into its loan file.
- Loan files are then forwarded to a loan committee to review and approve or disapprove.
- Performs other duties as necessary.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in business, banking, finance or any related field is essential
- Excellent oral and written communication and human relation skills.
- Excellent analytical skills
- Willing to travel.
- Must work well in a team environment and must be able to build and maintain effective working relationships.
- Ability to maintain and protect the confidentiality of information.
- Must be poised, patient, courteous, and maintain a professional manner.
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule to achieve the needs of the company.
- Must be detail oriented, results oriented, and be able to multi-task and work in a fast paced environment.
- Must work well under pressure, set and meet deadlines, be able to manage several priorities in a day.
- Must be dependable, adaptable, creative, and self-motivated.
- Administrative support in legal industry or related field preferred.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.

Submit your resume to Bridge Capital, LLC, PMB 29 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950 or email at reneacia.sannicolas@bccnmi.com

WHATZIT Solution: United States of America

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS


Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

ALASKANSAS
OHIOWA
FLORIDAHO

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Nuggets slip past Lakers in overtime



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Wilson Chandler scored 19 points and Ty Lawson had 18 points and 16 assists, helping the Denver Nuggets beat the Los Angeles Lakers 101-94 in overtime on Sunday night.

Arron Afflalo added 15 points for the Nuggets, who have won five of six following a 1-6 start that was capped by consecutive double-digit losses to Portland.

The Lakers, coming off a 140-106 drubbing at Dallas, began a four-game homestand with their seventh straight loss to the Nuggets, despite 27 points from Kobe Bryant. The NBA's No. 4 career scorer made only four of 14 shots after the third quarter and finished 10 for 24.

The losing streak against Denver matches the Lakers' longest against any club since an eight-game drought against Portland from Feb. 18, 1993, through Jan. 9, 1995. The franchise record for consecutive losses against one team is 19, against Boston from Nov. 6, 1957, through March 3, 1959.

Nuggets reserve Danilo Gallinari had 10 points, including a 3-pointer that gave Denver a 94-90 lead with 1:28 left in OT. Bryant responded with a short jumper 9 seconds later, but that was the Lakers' last basket in a game in which they finished at 37.1 percent from the field and Denver 37.8.

The Nuggets missed 15 of 38 free throws and the Lakers missed nine of 34. Los Angeles has lost five games by seven points or fewer.

Carlos Boozer sat out because of a left shoulder strain and Ed Davis made his first start as a Laker at power forward. He had four points and five rebounds in 22 minutes before fouling out with 10:37 left in the game and the Los Angeles ahead 75-73.

Wesley Johnson posterized Gallinari with a soaring slam dunk after a fast-break feed from Jeremy Lin and completed the three-point play to give the Lakers an 85-82 lead with 3:15 left in the fourth quarter. But they didn't make another field goal until overtime, when Lin hit a short jumper to give them an 88-86 lead with 4 minutes to play.

The Nuggets led 41-39 at halftime despite Chandler, Afflalo and Kenneth Faried all going 2 for 7 from the field. Bryant was the only starter on either team shooting at least 50 percent in the half, going 5 for 9 with 11 points.

The Nuggets, who made 10 or more 3-pointers in each of their previous four games, missed their first 11 attempts



Los Angeles Lakers center Jordan Hill (27) and forward Wesley Johnson (11) guard Denver Nuggets forward Danilo Gallinari (8), of Italy, as he looks to the basket in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014, in Los Angeles. The Nuggets won, 101-94.

from behind the arc against a defense that surrendered 18 against the Mavericks on Friday night. Darrell Arthur ended Denver's long-range drought with 7:54 left in the half.

Heat 94, Hornets 93

In Miami, Luol Deng scored 26 points, Chris Bosh and Mario Chalmers each added 20 and the Miami Heat held on in the final seconds to beat the Charlotte Hornets 94-93 on Sunday night and snap a three-game home slide.

Kemba Walker missed two potential go-ahead shots in the final half-minute for the Hornets, and Al Jefferson's tip-in try bounced off the rim as time expired as Charlotte dropped its fifth straight.

Chalmers had 10 assists for his second double-double of the season and Shabazz Napier scored 14 for the Heat.

Jefferson finished with 22 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte, which

got 17 points from Lance Stephenson and 16 from Walker. The Hornets led by as many as eight in the fourth, before Miami rallied.

Miami was without guard Dwyane Wade for the sixth straight game as he continues to work his way back from a strained left hamstring.

Working from the right side of the lane, Bosh spun free from Cody Zeller and scored to give Miami a 94-93 lead with 31 seconds remaining.

That's when the fun really started.

Walker missed with 26 seconds left and Charlotte down by one. The Heat got the rebound and the Hornets appeared to be trying to foul Chalmers near midcourt.

No foul was called, the ball got knocked away and after a deflection out of bounds the Hornets had possession with 13 seconds remaining. Walker went at Napier - Connecticut great vs. Connecticut great - and

missed, Jefferson got a good try at the tip, and the ball fell harmlessly away as the horn sounded.

Down nine at halftime, Charlotte made that deficit go away in a hurry.

An 11-2 run to open the third quarter, with Jefferson scoring five of those, pulled the Hornets into a 55-all tie - and Miami's offense continued to sputter. The Heat scored only 14 points in the third, Charlotte ended the quarter with a 6-0 burst and the Hornets went into the fourth up 72-67.

Charlotte's lead was eight midway through the fourth, and the Heat were mired in a stretch where they had two field goals in more than 9 minutes. But Miami put together a flurry, setting up the back-and-forth dance to the wire.

Bosh hit a 3-pointer, Napier had a pair of free throws after a steal and then - off a drive-and-dish by Chalmers - Napier added a 3-pointer to cap an eight-point, 43-second burst and give Miami an 87-86 lead.

There were four more lead changes from there.

Blazers 94, Celtics 88

In Boston, LaMarcus Aldridge had 20 points and 14 rebounds, reserve Chris Kaman scored 16 points and the Portland Trail Blazers extended their winning streak to seven games with a 94-88 victory over the Boston Celtics on Sunday night.

Damian Lillard added 12 points and five assists for Portland, which began a brief East swing. Nicolas Batum also had 12 points.

Jeff Green and Jared Sullinger had 19 points apiece for Boston, which dropped its fifth in six games. Avery Bradley and Rajon Rondo each scored 13. Rondo added eight assists and six rebounds.

The game was tied at 72-all after three quarters before the Trail Blazers took charge with a 17-5 run to start the fourth. Wesley Matthews and Lillard each hit a 3-pointer just over a minute apart.

Boston missed 12 of its first 14 shots in the quarter.

The Celtics made a brief spurt, closing it to 92-88 on consecutive 3s by Bradley and Sullinger with 90 seconds to go, but they were unable to make shots in the final minute.

Portland shot just 35.4 percent in the opening half, but started 6 of 7 in the second and took their first lead of the game at 59-57 on Aldridge's layup. The teams were then tied five times in the final 4 minutes of the third.

Before the game. Portland coach

Terry Stotts talked about his team needing to stop its habit of slow starts. It didn't happen, as the Trail Blazers missed 12 of their first 13 shots from the floor and fell behind by 10 midway into the second quarter.

Grizzlies 107, Clippers 91

In Memphis, Marc Gasol had 30 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Memphis Grizzlies to a 107-91 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday night.

Gasol was 13 of 18 from the field as six Grizzlies reached double figures. Courtney Lee added 13 points for Memphis, which maintained the league's best record (12-2).

Tony Allen had 12 points, while Beno Udrih and Quincy Pondexter had 11 points apiece off the Memphis bench. Zach Randolph had 10 points.

Chris Paul had 22 points, five assists and four steals for the Clippers, who had their two-game winning streak snapped. Jamal Crawford scored 19, and J.J. Redick finished with 15, going 3 of 6 from outside the arc.

Blake Griffin scored 12 points, but was 5 of 17 from the field.

Gasol, who had his second straight game of at least 30 points, helped Memphis dominate the interior as the Grizzlies outrebounded the Clippers 52-32. Memphis held a 52-32 advantage in the paint and outscored Los Angeles in second-chance points 17-8.

Memphis led by as many as 25 points in the fourth as Clippers coach Doc Rivers relied on his reserves to try and erase the deficit. The Los Angeles bench made a run to get within 15, but even when Rivers inserted DeAndre Jordan, Paul and Griffin back in the game, Memphis pulled away again.

With the Grizzlies holding a double-digit lead in the third quarter, Paul did everything he could to pull the Clippers back into the game. The All-Star point guard scored 13 points in the quarter, but Gasol continued to dominate and four Memphis starters were already in double figures entering the fourth with an 88-72 lead.

The first half amounted to Gasol taking on the Clippers post players. He recorded 20 points before the break as Memphis led by as many as 17.

The Clippers were able to put a dent in the Memphis advantage with six straight points in the second quarter, but the Grizzlies carried a 53-40 lead into the break. Los Angeles shot 35 percent in the half and finished at 42 percent, including 7 of 25 from 3-point range.



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The Oakland Athletics filled their second

key position in five days Sunday, acquiring first baseman Ike Davis and international bonus slot 86 from the Pittsburgh Pirates in exchange for international bonus slot 27.

Oakland, which lost in the AL wild-card game 9-8 in 12 innings to Kansas City, signed designated hitter Billy Butler to a \$30 million, three-year contract Wednesday. Butler also is likely to play some first base, where catcher Stephen Vogt was a regular down the stretch because of a

Athletics acquire Ike Davis from Pirates

foot injury that limited him.

A's manager Bob Melvin, attending the San Francisco 49ers' 17-13 win over the Washington Redskins in Santa Clara, said he's unsure how the lineup might look.

"We'll see how it plays out at first. We're always looking for depth," Melvin said. "It's always nice to get a couple of guys early in the offseason that you feel like could help you."

The 27-year-old Davis began last season with the New York Mets and batted .208 with a home run and five

RBIs in 12 games before Pittsburgh acquired him April 18 for pitchers Zack Thornton and Blake Taylor.

A left-handed hitter, Davis then batted .235 in 131 games for the Pirates, finishing 2014 with a .233 overall batting average and 11 homers and 51 RBIs in 143 games.

The A's designated outfielder Andrew Brown for assignment to clear roster room for Davis.

Davis was designated for assignment Thursday. Had he remained on Pittsburgh's roster past Dec. 2,

he would have been eligible for salary arbitration and in line to receive a large raise from his \$3.5 million salary.

Butler batted .271 with nine home runs and 66 RBIs in 151 games this year, 108 of those as a DH.

Now, general manager Billy Beane is focused on finding a shortstop considering Jed Lowrie is a free agent. Though Beane said Andy Parrino could be an option from within.

"It's still early in the offseason, but it's not a robust market, in our opin-

ion," Beane said after the Butler signing. "Other clubs are in pursuit of shortstops and middle infielders."

In Los Angeles, the Dodgers have acquired right-handed pitcher Mike Bolsinger from the Arizona Diamondbacks for cash.

The deal came Saturday.

The 26-year-old Bolsinger made his major league debut last season. He had nine starts and one relief appearance for Arizona, going 1-6 with a 5.50 ERA.

The Dodgers designated lefty Jarret Martin for assignment. The 25-year-old reliever spent the season in Double-A.

Cowboys rally behind Romo to nip Giants



EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — Tony Romo threw two touch-

down passes to Dez Bryant, the winner from 13 yards with 1:01 remaining, to lift the Dallas Cowboys to a comeback 31-28 victory over the New York Giants.

Romo threw for two TDs in the third quarter. But the Giants (3-8), trailing 24-21, staged a 93-yard drive capped by Adrien Robinson's first career TD catch, from 1 yard with 3 minutes left.

Back came Dallas (8-3) on an 80-yard march in which Romo never was pressured. He found Bryant in the back of the end zone to win it, setting up an NFC East showdown with Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day for first place.

Thanks to Odell Beckham Jr.'s spectacular one-handed catch, one of the rookie's two first-half touchdowns, New York built a 21-10 halftime lead. But the Giants lost their sixth straight and were eliminated from division contention.

Seahawks 19, Cardinals 3

In Seattle, Russell Wilson found backup tight end Cooper Helfet for a 20-yard catch-and-run touchdown late in the third quarter, Steven Hauschka kicked four field goals as Seattle handed Arizona its second loss of the season.

Wilson was sacked a season-high seven times by Arizona's ultra-aggressive defense and the assortment of blitzes they called to confuse and fluster the Seahawks quarterback. But when Seattle (7-4) needed a scoring drive, after squandering advantageous field position throughout the game, Wilson delivered.

The victory was a must for Seattle if it had any hopes of getting back into the division race. The Seahawks entered the day trailing Arizona (9-2) by three games in the NFC West.

Arizona was held to a season-low 204 total yards. A week after throwing for a career-high 306 yards, Drew Stanton was 14 of 26 for 149 and one interception.

Broncos 39, Dolphins 36

In Denver, Peyton Manning threw three of his four TD passes to Demaryius Thomas and C.J. Anderson ran for 167 yards and the go-ahead score in the Denver Broncos' win over the Miami Dolphins.

Anderson's 10-yard run with 5:01 left gave the Broncos (8-3) their first lead of the game at 32-28. T.J. Ward's 37-yard interception return of Ryan Tannehill's pass set up Wes Welker's insurance TD catch.

The Broncos needed it after Tannehill drove the Dolphins (6-5) on another scoring drive, hitting Jarvis Landry from a



yard out with 1:34 left. Lamar Miller's 2-point dive made it a 3-point game.

The Dolphins' onside kick was recovered by — who else? — Anderson, who sealed the game with a 26-yard run. Anderson, who had 27 carries, also caught four passes for 38 yards.

Manning became the third player in NFL history with touchdown passes in 50 consecutive games, joining Drew Brees (54) and Tom Brady (52). He completed 28 of 35 passes for 257 yards and no interceptions on a cool Colorado evening.

Broncos 26, Falcons 24

In Atlanta, Brian Hoyer shook off three interceptions, leading the Cleveland Browns down the field in the final minute to set up Billy Cundiff's 37-yard field goal as time expired to beat the Atlanta Falcons.

Taking advantage of the last of Hoyer's picks, the Falcons drove for Matt Bryant's 53-yard field goal with 44 seconds remaining to seize the lead.

But Hoyer completed four straight passes, the last of them to the Falcons 19, and spiked the ball with 5 seconds left. Cundiff trotted on and made his fourth field goal of the game for the Browns (7-4).

Atlanta (4-7), coming in improbably tied for first in the woeful NFC South, dropped to 0-7 against teams outside the division.

Isaiah Crowell scored a pair of touchdowns for the Browns, who also were bolstered by the return of Josh Gordon. He had eight catches for 120 yards.

Patriots 34, Lions 9

In Foxborough, Tom Brady threw for 349 yards and two touchdowns in a pass-heavy offense against the NFL's stingiest rushing defense as the New England Patriots stretched their

winning streak to seven games with a victory over the Detroit Lions.

The Patriots led 24-6 at halftime as Brady repeatedly found wide-open receivers while the Lions struggled on offense. For the second straight game, Detroit failed to score a touchdown.

New England (9-2) routed a division leader for the third consecutive game, following wins over Denver and Indianapolis. Detroit (7-4) lost for the second straight week against a conference leader after falling to Arizona 14-6 last Sunday.

LeGarrette Blount rushed for 78 yards and two touchdowns three days after signing with New England after being cut by Pittsburgh. In the win over the Colts, the Patriots stuck with the running game as Jonas Gray rushed 37 times for 201 yards and four touchdowns. After being sent home from Friday's practice for reporting late, he didn't play at all on Sunday.

Packers 24, Vikings 21

In Minneapolis, Eddie Lacy rushed for 125 yards on 25 carries, both season highs to help Aaron Rodgers as the Green Bay Packers hang on against the Minnesota Vikings.

Lacy scored twice, on a run in the first quarter and a catch in the fourth. Then, he rumbled through the line for two first downs to drain the clock after the Vikings (4-7) cut the lead to three with 3:23 remaining.

Rodgers threw two touchdown passes and again avoided a turnover for the Packers (8-3), who stayed out of a potential trap against a struggling team with a game next week against surging New England. They also moved past Detroit into sole possession of first place in the NFC North when the Lions lost to the Patriots.

Charles Johnson and Greg Jennings caught touchdown passes from Teddy Bridgewater, who finished 21 for 37 for 210 yards and an interception.

Eagles 43, Titans 24

In Philadelphia, Josh Huff returned the opening kickoff 107 yards and LeSean McCoy ran for 130 yards as the Philadelphia Eagles beat the Tennessee Titans.

Huff's return was the longest in franchise history and the 10th non-offensive touchdown for Philadelphia this season.

Mark Sanchez threw for 307 yards and one touchdown in his third start for the injured Nick Foles. He has 300 yards passing in three straight games, tying a team record.

Now, the Eagles (8-3) can shift their focus to the Dallas Cowboys (7-3) for a first-place showdown on Thanksgiving. The top two teams in the NFC East will play twice in 18 days, starting with Thursday's game at Dallas.

Rookie Zach Mettenberger had 345 yards passing and two TDs and Delanie Walker had 155 yards receiving for the Titans (2-9).

Bengals 22, Texans 13

In Houston, Andy Dalton threw for 233 yards and a touchdown and A.J. Green had 121 yards receiving on a career-high 12 receptions to give the Cincinnati Bengals a win over the Houston Texans.

The Bengals (7-3-1) led throughout, but Houston (5-6) cut the lead to three points late in the third quarter before Cincinnati tacked on two field goals in the fourth quarter to secure the win.

Rookie Jeremy Hill scored on a 2-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter after an interception by Ryan Mallett for

Cincinnati's only touchdown of the second half.

Mallett struggled in his second career start, finishing with 189 yards passing and often overthrowing open receivers. Houston's only touchdown came on a 60-yard interception return by Johnathan Joseph in the third quarter.

Rookie Alfred Blue ran for 46 yards filling in for the injured Arian Foster for the second straight game.

Colts 23, Jaguars 3

In Indianapolis, T.Y. Hilton celebrated the birth of his first child with a 73-yard TD catch, spurring a second-half turnaround that allowed Indianapolis to pull away from Jacksonville.

Andrew Luck was 21 of 32 for 253 yards with one score, but his streak of consecutive 300-yard games ended at eight — one short of Drew Brees' NFL record.

The Colts (7-4) have won 11 straight against AFC South foes. Jacksonville (1-10) has lost four straight overall and five straight to Indy.

Hilton promised to score a touchdown for his new daughter, but it sure wasn't easy. Luck was sacked five times, fumbled three times and lost two of those in the first half.

But Indy still led 6-3 at the half and 13-3 after Trent Richardson's 1-yard TD run in the third quarter. Hilton's long catch made it 20-3. Adam Vinatieri's third field goal capped the scoring.

Bears 21, Buccaneers 13

In Chicago, Matt Forte rushed for two touchdowns in the third quarter as the Chicago Bears beat Lovie Smith and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Jay Cutler threw a 2-yard TD pass to Alshon Jeffery as the Bears (5-6) scored 21 straight points to erase a 10-0 halftime

^{AP}
New York Giants running back Rashad Jennings (23) is tackled by Dallas Cowboys George Selvie in the fourth quarter of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Cowboys won, 31-28.

deficit. Forte had a 13-yard run that put Chicago ahead to stay, and then added a 1-yard plunge that made it 21-10.

Smith coached the Bears to three playoff appearances and a trip to the 2007 Super Bowl during his successful nine-year run in Chicago. He was hired by Tampa Bay (2-9) in January.

Tampa Bay had three turnovers in the third. Josh McCown, who played for the Bears the previous three seasons, lost a fumble and threw an interception. Vincent Jackson also lost a fumble at the end of a 24-yard reception that would have resulted in a first-and-goal.

Chargers 27, Rams 24

In San Diego, Marcus Gilchrist intercepted Shaun Hill at the goal line with 56 seconds left to preserve the San Diego Chargers' victory against the St. Louis Rams that helped tighten the AFC West race.

Gilchrist jumped the route as Hill tried to force a pass to Kenny Britt, who also was covered by Shareece Wright, on second-and-goal from the 4. Hill had beaten Gilchrist on a 7-yard TD pass to Stedman Bailey with 2:04 left that pulled the Rams within three points.

The Rams (4-7) were trying for consecutive wins for the first time this season, having upset Denver a week earlier. Janoris Jenkins returned an interception by Philip Rivers 99 yards for a touchdown.

Ryan Mathews had a 32-yard touchdown run and linebacker Andrew Gachkar scored on a 13-yard fumble recovery 21 seconds later for the Chargers (7-4).

49ers 17, Redskins 13

In Santa Clara, Carlos Hyde ran for a go-ahead 4-yard touchdown with 2:59 remaining as San Francisco barely squeaked by the lowly Washington Redskins with a win that kept them in the thick of the playoff chase.

A fourth-down conversion in their own territory away from losing, the Niners finally capitalized with a rare touchdown in the final period on the way to their third straight victory.

San Francisco (7-4) overcame three turnovers. Anquan Boldin, who caught a pair of touchdown passes in a win at Washington last November, finished with nine catches for 137 yards.

Kai Forbath kicked a 46-yard field goal with 7:42 to go that put Washington ahead. Alfred Morris ran for a season-best 125 yards and a touchdown for the Redskins (3-8), who lost their third in a row and fourth straight to the 49ers.

Pressure builds for Mayweather after Pacquiao win



M A C A U (AP)—Manny Pacquiao is done taking the high road, tired of pretending he doesn't care.

At long last he has Floyd Mayweather Jr. right where he wants him. And this time he's not about to let him slip away without a fight.

"I think it's time to say something," Pacquiao said Sunday after dispatching Chris Algieri in convincing fashion in this Chinese casino town. "The fans deserve that fight. It's time to make that fight happen."

Whether it actually happens, of course, depends on Mayweather agreeing to sign on the bottom line. And for the better part of five years now, Mayweather has given one excuse after another when it comes to making the one fight boxing fans really want.

He thought Pacquiao might be on steroids, and refused to deal with his promoter. When Pacquiao got knocked out by Juan Manuel Marquez, Mayweather said it wasn't worth his time to even mention his name.

But now Mayweather may be boxed into a corner for a num-

ber of reasons and from a number of angles. The pressure will be on to make the fight sometime in the first half of next year or forever draw the wrath of the fans who contribute to his massive paychecks.

And suddenly the prospect of boxing's richest fight ever doesn't seem like such a far-fetched fantasy after all.

"Answer the telephone, it's as simple as that," promoter Bob Arum said when asked what it would take to make the fight. "If boxing is to be considered a major sport then the fight has to happen. The nonsense needs to cease.

There are no excuses anymore."

Mayweather opened the door ever so slightly to the fight after his win over Marcos Maidana in September, saying that he might be open to the possibility of a fight.

"If the Pacquiao fight happens, it happens," Mayweather said. "You can ask the same questions and get the same answers. I call my own shots."

There remain a number of obstacles to actually making a fight, though, not least is Mayweather's willingness to risk his unblemished mark near the end of his career.

No attendance, no team in Saipan Little League



The Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. board is reminding all managers to attend today's final general membership meeting at 5:30pm at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The SLLBI board, headed by president Benjamin Jones Sr., wants to finalize details of the opening in January and discuss other league concerns. The league's tentative opening is on Jan. 15.

Jones wants to have a full attendance from representatives of participating teams as he will also discuss the registration forms and entrance fees.

Jones said that he and the SLLBI board want the season to end early to give the all star teams enough time to train for the CNMI district and Asia-

Pacific-Middle East regional tournaments. He reiterated that today's meeting will be the last that's why the SLLBI board is asking all managers to attend.

"If you're not present, your team will be out of the program," Jones said.

The SLLBI board has also set Dec. 6 as player registration day and they will assist managers and coaches in registering their players. They will receive the team rosters and other necessary documents from 9am to 12nn at the Ada Gym pavilion.

Annie Deleon Guerrero Flores (vice president), Piding Tenorio (secretary and player agent), Malcolm Omar (treasurer), Climaco Laniyo (safety officer), and AJ Murig (chief statistician) are the other SLLBI board members.

For more information, call Tenorio at 285-1024 or Murig a 989-0640. *(JVP)*

Canaries rule PIC kids dodgeball

The San Vicente Elementary School Canaries ruled the 2014 Pacific Islands Club Annual Dodgeball fundraising tournament for kids held last Saturday at the PIC tennis courts.

The Canaries swept their way to the finals after beating 2012 titlists Kagman Elementary School Blue Marlins, Oleai Elementary School Turtles 1, and 2013 champions Garapan Elementary School Mallards Quack Attack in the elimination round.

SVES faced Whispering Palms in the finals and defeated the Angry Birds to rule this year's tournament.

SVES and Whispering Palms received \$1,000 and \$800 worth of sports equipment, respectively.

Whispering Palms also won the Best Banner, while the Ca-

canaries went home with the Best in Uniform award.

Other competing teams were the William S. Reyes Elementary School Kingfishers, OES Turtle 2, Koblerville Elementary School Umangs and the WPS Mad Piggies.

Pool play and seeding were played in the morning, while the elimination brackets started in the afternoon. All students in the 5th grade or below played in the one-day event

Teams were allowed to have 6 to 10 players each and they played each game for three minutes. Two girls from each squad must be inside the playing court. Each team had to eliminate as many players from the opposing side by hitting them with the dodgeball. The squad with the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the San Vicente Elementary School Canaries celebrate after winning the 2014 Pacific Islands Club Annual Dodgeball fundraising tournament held last Saturday at the PIC tennis courts.

most number of remaining players after the three-minute time limit was declared the winner.

"Dodgeball really takes me back to my days of elementary school. I love seeing all the kids

out on the court enjoying the same game I did as a kid," said PIC Sports, Entertainment and Activities director and tournament director Glenn Policare. *(Jon Perez)*

MPU U15

From Page 28

keeper Ethan Dickinson. Paire's Won Jun Kim retaliated to even up the match anew, while Cody Leon made it two in a row for MP United to regain the lead.

Next up at the penalty area was Paire's Joel Fruit and he too completed the attempt to force the fourth deadlock of the match. Alex Park then put

MP United on top again before Paire's Ivan Seo answered back for Paire. Keanu Diaz made it 4-for-4 for MP United, however the team failed to keep the lead with Dickinson scoring against his fellow goalkeeper.

With the game still tied and each team left with one player to hit the winning shot, Bada Lee stepped into the penalty area and kept MP United's streak to put more pressure on Podziewski.

The Paire player then had a good shot, but Izuka reacted quickly for the game-saving dive.

Earlier in regulation, Lee scored in the 78th minute for the second standoff. Paire forced the first deadlock, 1-1, as Fruit got into the board in the 36th minute, 14 minutes after Michael Lee scored MP United's first goal. Paire went on to end the first half hanging on to a slim 2-1 lead as Dickinson hit

his target in the 41st minute.

Meanwhile, in the other play-off pairing last Saturday, it was an all-Tan Holdings U18 show with Inkyu Choi leading the squad.

Choi had a brace, knocking in his first goal right into the fourth minute of the lopsided match. Tan Holdings U18 team registered the next two goals in a span of five minutes with Yoshi Mafnas making it to the board in the sixth minute and

Choi gaining his second in the 11th. Tan Holdings wrapped up the first half with one more goal, courtesy of Se Young Kim, who found the back of the net one minute before the first frame concluded. Tan Holdings' lone goal in the second half came from Ryan Relucio, who lit up the board in the 61st minute.

Meanwhile, the winner of the Tan Holdings U18-MP United U15 tiff at 6pm tonight will chal-

lenge MP United U18 in the winner-take-all finale this Saturday at 1pm at the Oleai pitch. The loser will play Matansa FC U18 in the battle for third place also this Saturday at 10am at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

MP United U18, which won the last three editions of the Challenge Cup, secured the first finals berth in this season's competition after crushing Matansa FC U18, 8-0, last Saturday.

WOMEN'S

From Page 28

here, just like what the men's team has been doing.

I want to see women's football grow here," she said.

Salas, who arrived Friday morning along with Team Guahan, added that she would still meet with Commonwealth Football League Association board chair John Blanco to discuss other matters since everything is in its planning stage.

"There's interest in women's football. When I was touring Saipan I bumped into two ladies and they are interested to join.

In Guam, we have players from different walks of life. They are students, doctors, clerks, secretaries and stay-at-home moms.

Salas said playing tackle football is one of their ways to take some aggression out.

"Anyone can play the sport, all you need to have is commitment. The ladies also want to play football. Maybe, it is their way of taking out their stress since in football they can hit legitimately as long as it is within the rules. And you also have protective gear."

"Gear won't be a problem since it is the same like the men's wear. You could order it

online and I can tell them where to order the gear. I have the resources if they want to buy in bulk," she added.

Salas said Saipan could start with 6-aside teams just to familiarize the players with the rules.

"We need to make sure first that there are teams here on Saipan. We want to follow the same formula on how American women's football started in Guam. In our first year, we played 6-aside and I think that is the formation that Saipan should start playing with."

"After starting with 6-aside, we had 8-aside the following year, and now we currently play

11-aside. We want to take baby steps here on Saipan and not form the standard 11-man formation. We could also provide them with the rulebook," she said.

"And hopefully in a year, we could come down here and play a friendly 6-aside game with the Saipan ladies."

Salas said 6-aside matches can be complicated at first but with the help of a coach who knows football, the female players can get used to it.

"The only challenge for the women is the one who is not in shape or not in good condition. They might have a hard time in the beginning. You know how

some of the coaches are, they are like drill sergeants," Salas said with a laugh.

She added that in 6-aside games, one is assigned as the quarterback, three will be at the offensive line, while two are running backs.

"The only difference is the five remaining players are all eligible as wide receivers. Anyone can catch the ball and carry it all the way down to the end zone."

Salas said that women's football in Guam now has a strong fan base since they started in 2012.

"It has grown big in Guam. Right now we have seven

teams. Before, the number of team varies as we started with 8 in our first year and five played the next season. We also gained more attention as a lot of people watch it," Salas said.

She said they are not expecting the sport to make an impact right away on Saipan.

"I just want the CNMI to start off somewhere. I want to show that women on Saipan can also play the sport. I'm excited and I really wanted to see ladies play football," she ended.

For more information or any interested players or coaches, email John Blanco at johnsblanco@yahoo.com.

OL'ACES

From Page 28

fourth-quarter breakaway, scoring 8 points in the final canto. Michael Laniyo and Miller combined for 10 more points, while three other Ol'Aces also

hit the board in the payoff frame.

The Ol'Aces needed the push in the final quarter as they played so-so in the first half before making little headway in the third canto. The Ol'Aces were held to single digit in scoring in the first period to face a 9-11

deficit. They were limited to three field goals in the opening quarter with only Gerald Castillo tallying more than 2 points for the squad.

Borja, who was scoreless in the first quarter, then found his rhythm in the second period,

knocking in back-to-back triples to help the Ol'Aces grab the lead at halftime. However, the Ol'Aces led by only a hair, 23-22, as John Guerrero's back-to-back baskets late in the second period kept Dough Boys afloat.

The Ol'Aces gained more cushion in the third, thanks to Cristobal's 8 straight points midway in the quarter. Borja added 4 more markers in that period and finished Dough Boys off with his four field goals in the final frame.

Ol'Aces 64 — Borja 20, Cristobal 12, Miller 8, Laniyo 8, Kabiriel 6, Castillo 5.

Dough Boys 47 — Esmundo 14, Raquero 9, Guerrero 8, Bondoc 8, Camacho 4.

Scoring by quarters: 9-11, 23-22, 40-35, 64-47.

2014 All Schools Cross Country Championships

PHOTOS BY JON PEREZ



Participants in the U8, U10, and U12 age groups head to the course during the 2014 All Schools Cross Country Championships held at the American Memorial Park.



Two Agape Christian School runners try to outrace each other as they approach the finish line, while Gabrielle Race keeps here pace.



Three youth runners sprint toward the finish line.



Two San Vicente Elementary School runners go toe-to-toe in the final meters of the race.



A Saipan Community School student is on his way to the finish line in the U12 boys division.



Kaden Church of Whispering Palms School nears the finish line to rule the U10 boys.



A runner keeps his focus as he approaches the finish line.



From left, Agape Christian School's Alan Zhao, Saipan Southern High School's Dylan Ackerman, and Marianas High School's Mason Fruit race toward the finish line.



A participant from San Vicente Elementary School keeps her pace as she approaches the finish line.



A participant from Agape Christian School jogs the last few meters of the three-lap course in the U18 division.



**Cowboys rally
behind Romo
to nip Giants**

PAGE 25

Saipan Tribune Sports

**Nuggets slip
past Lakers
in overtime**

PAGE 24



28 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MPU U15, Tan Holdings U18 advance

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club U18 and MP United Football Club U15 teams are the only two squads left standing on the eastern bracket of the 2014 FA Youth Challenge Cup and will battle for the last finals seat in the annual competition tonight at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings U18 advanced to the semifinals following a 5-0 trashing of its women's team last Saturday also at the Oleai pitch, while MP United U15 booked a semis ticket earlier after nosing out Paire FC U18 in a penalty shootout, 5-4, last Thursday.



MP United U15 moved a win away from barging into the finals and arranging a title duel with its U18 squad after getting a big defensive stop from goalkeeper Clayton Izuka. The MP United goalie dove for a save at the left corner, denying Paire's Dai Podziewski the game-tying goal.

MP United was the first to attempt in the penalty shootout with Edwin Kim connecting one against Paire goal-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United U15 goalkeeper Clayton Izuka, seen here calling out a play during an earlier game in the 2014 NMIFA Fall League, made a diving save in their 5-4 win over Paire FC U18 in the FA Challenge Cup last Thursday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

**See MPU U15 on
Page 26**

Ol'Aces dominate Dough Boys, 64-47

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Ol'Aces ended their regular season campaign in the 2014 BANMI Youth League on a winning note after topping Dough Boys, 64-47, in the U18 division game last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces finished the round-robin regular season with a 3-5 record, while Dough Boys dropped to a 2-5 card with one game left (against the Rollers A). The final standings of the U18 division have yet to be released, but unofficial records show Tinian leading the field with an unbeaten 8-0 mark, followed by Division of Youth Services (6-2), Chalan Kanoa Saints (5-3), Kentucky Fried Chicken (4-5), Ol'Aces, Rollers A (3-4), Dough Boys, and Rollers B (1-7). All eight teams will advance to the playoffs, which will begin next month once the Rollers A and B squads are back from the tournament in Guam.

A fourth-quarter assault allowed the Ol'Aces to cruise past Dough Boys. Ahead by only five at the end of the third period, 40-35, the Ol'Aces doubled-up Dough Boys in the fourth 24-12, for the 17-point winning margin.

Edmon Borja led the Ol'Aces' **See OL'ACES on Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ol'Aces' Leowell Cristobal uses his left arm to protect the ball against the defense of KFC's John Darag during an earlier game in the U18 division of the BANMI youth league last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Women's tackle football coaches eyed



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players in the Bud Light Guam Women's Tackle Football League block each other in a game last season. BLGWTFLL president Linda Salas wants to work closely with Commonwealth Football League Association officials to start a women's league on Saipan.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Bud Light Guam Women's Tackle Football League president Linda Salas vowed to help Saipan take baby steps so the sport can gain some traction in the CNMI.

Salas, who was part of the Guam delegation that watched Team Guahan play against the CNMI Sharks in Saturday's friendly match, said her first goal is to find coaches who can help train and put up at least three teams on Saipan.

"It can be anybody who loves football, who might have an experience in coaching. John Blanco can be one of the coaches. I want the coaches to form at least 2 or 3 teams. Someday we can also come here and play against them or vice versa," said Salas.

"We're going to fundraise and come **See WOMEN'S on Page 26**